JOHN BULL

Vol. XVI. No. 402. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1914. ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

485018

For meaning of this No. see page ii. of Cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

£1,750
FOR A
FORECAST

NEW FOOTBALL CONTEST

See Page 31.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week SIXTY of such numbers will be drawn and published in the following issue.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL so specified (who, bearing only of such numbers, we will, upon production, within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed in foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of ONE GUINEA in return for his willingness to exercise his own work to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a report of all the work done.

The following correct claims have been received:—

Mr. F. BYATT, 1, Evesham Road, New Southgate, N. January 10. 162,677.

Mr. F. S. ROBY, 24, Dunlace Road, Median Road, Clapton. January 17. 263,162.

Mr. J. S. STREETS, 12, Queensbury Street, Sunderland. January 24. 764,112.

Mr. C. TORBY, 7, Brighton Terrace, Bellis Street, Birmingham. January 27. 445,632.

Mr. P. W. SMITH, "St. Andries," Crowdy's Hill, Upper Stratton, Nr. Swindon. January 24. 263,432.

Mr. WM. MOORES, 28, Larnedale Avenue, Reddish, Nr. Stockport. January 17. 162,765.

Mr. H. K. RANDALL, 51, Faithe, Nr. Norwich. January 17. 634,562.

Mr. H. BENFORD, 11, Douglas Street, Paisley, N.B. January 17. 165,657.

Mr. W. MOSELEY, 111, Lochend Road, Leith, Edinburgh. January 24. 632,562.

Mr. GEO. STAHL, 118, Kensington Road, S.E. January 24. 291,632.

Mr. F. MARSHALL, 31, William Street, Barnsley. January 24. 632,762.

Mr. W. H. WHITBY, 5, Harberson Road, Balham, S.W. January 17. 632,564.

Mr. J. BREED, 32, Greenhundred Road, Peckham, S.E. January 24. 762,717.

Mr. NEIL JOHNSON, 59, Benton Way, Wallsend-on-Tyne. January 17. 562,532.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of February 7:—

632741	161*83	574563	619462	267462
614642	172362	467764	627469	572362
621662	162712	619262	662654	912254
652342	297197	462462	672267	262267
662272	252262	462272	691262	262272
627712	262441	621162	762262	262162
621215	272254	252442	752262	262161
122262	264267	262217	772254	A262217
122162	212264	267462	214712	A621262
147642	262262	264214	262272	A627262

*Not A preferred to a crown number, and enters it in place a million.

The Fifty Numbers in respect of this week will be announced in our next issue (published on February 18th.)

UNANIMOUS DECISION in favour of SHAVALLO

"After much Shaving Comfort ... John Knight's ... has no equal. ... & Best."

... daintily clean ... SHAVALLO soothes and ..., making the ... a Pleasure. SHAVALLO is DIFFERENT ... other Shaving Soaps and Creams.

... claims by sending ... Penny Postage ... Take to—

JOHN KNIGHT, Ltd.

(Dept. [illegible]) LONDON, E.

... by Appointment to H.M. King George V.

In White Ivorine Tablet, 6d. & 1/-. Round Tablet, 4½d.

FIRST READ THIS. If you predict the "Home" Team will win put in ink a X in the Home Column; if you predict the "Away" Team will win put a X in the Away Column. For Draws put a X in the Draw Column.

John Bull ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, Feb. 28th.

HOME	AWAY.	DRAW.	HOME TEAM.		AWAY TEAM.
			Sunderland	v.	Bradford City
			Everton	v.	Manchester C.
			Sheffield W.	v.	Sheffield U.
			Bolton W.	v.	Middlesboro'
			Chelsea	v.	Aston Villa
			Birmingham	v.	Huddersfield
			Bradford	v.	Notts County
			Bristol City	v.	Bury
			Clapton Orient	v.	Hull City
			Glossop	v.	Wolverhampton W.
			Notts Forest	v.	Fulham
			Stockport C.	v.	Leicester Fosse
			Watford	v.	Bristol Rovers
			Coventry City	v.	Merthyr
			Crystal Palace	v.	West Ham
			Reading	v.	Plymouth Argyle
			Southampton	v.	Q. P. Rangers
			Norwich C.	v.	Swindon
			Northampton	v.	Exeter City
			Southend	v.	Millwall

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

12 Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

READ RULES CAREFULLY.

NOTE METHOD OF MARKING COUPON.

To safeguard the interests of our competitors we have adopted the following new rule for marking the Entrance Form:—If you predict the Home Team will win, put a X in the Home Column; if you give the Away Team to win, put a X in the Away Column. For a Draw put a X in the Draw Column.

If filling these forms, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do), your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and enclose it in an envelope, 27-28, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., which envelope in your left-hand corner, Football Contest, No. 12, so as to reach us not later than Friday, February 27th.

2. The sum of £1,750 will be paid to the Competitor whose entrance form contains the correct results, as published in the *Sporting Life*, of all the matches given played for a Match on February 28th. Should it happen that no competitor shall be entitled giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £500 will be paid to the Competitor whose coupon shows one error only. In the unlikely event of neither the £1,750 nor the £500 being won, we shall in any event pay the sum of £250 to the competitor sending in the most correct forecasts, whatever the number, and £50 to the sender of the most correct forecasts on a mauve coupon taken from *Merry Bull*. If the sender of a mauve coupon should win or share the £1,750, or the £500 or £250, the *Merry Bull* prize will be awarded to the sender of the next most correct forecasts sent on a mauve coupon. In the event of the £1,750 or £500 prize being won, the £250 prize will, of course, not be awarded. The £50 mauve coupon prize will be paid in any event.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort. No correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted.

5. Any effort on which any allegation has been made will be disqualified.

6. In the event of a tie or ties in this Competition, the prize of £1,750 or the contingent prize of £500, as well as the special £50 mauve coupon Prize, will be equally divided.

7. Our employees are strictly debarred from entering this Contest.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27th.

DUPLICATE COUPON.

The following duplicate list of the matches is printed solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the Entrance Form.

H	A	D	TEAMS	H	A	D	TEAMS
			Sunderland v. Bradford C.				Notts F. v. [illegible]m
			Everton v. Manchester City				Stockport C. v. [illegible]ester F.
			Sheffield W. v. Sheffield U.				Watford v. B[illegible] Rovers.
			Bolton W. v. Middlesboro'				Coventry City v. [illegible] Merthyr
			Chelsea v. Aston Villa				Crystal Palace v. West Ham
			Birmingham v. Huddersfield				Reading v. P[illegible]outh A.
			Bradford v. Notts County				Southampton v. [illegible]. P. Rangers
			Bristol City v. Bury				Norwich C. v. [illegible]swindon
			Clapton O. v. Hull City				Northampton v. [illegible] Exeter City
			Glossop v. Wolverhampton W.				Southend v. [illegible]ll

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XVI. No. 402. Week ending Saturday, February 14th, 1914. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *inquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

All remittances, applications for advertising space, subscriptions, orders, etc., should be addressed to Odhams Limited, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for FEB 7th. 1914. bearing on its Cover the Number **526,626.**

Apply **THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL,"**
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

The £10 reward offered for the copy of JOHN BULL, dated January 31st, and bearing the number 238,442, has been paid to Mr. Frank J. Nolan of 11, Wythenshawe Road, Northendey, Cheshire.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

"General Election in May."

We *don't* think!

To Advertisers.

We regret that we are again compelled to hold over several pages of advertisements. We could, of course, increase our size, but with a million circulation, our printing resources are already severely taxed.

At It Again.

In a few days' time the Westminster Show will have been reopened, and most of the old actors will be seen in their favourite parts. Seats may now be booked. The performance will start with a little sketch, entitled "Moving the Address," in which the principal rôles will be filled by a *solicitor and a barrister*. And thus will the Business of the Nation commence! On another page we give our version of what, under a Business Government regime, would have been the King's Speech, and we invite our readers, in advance, to compare it with the clap-trap effusion which will be put into his Majesty's mouth.

Dreaming not Business.

Thus Mr. Lloyd George at Glasgow: "The chariots of retribution are drawing nigh *and all injustice* is coming to an end. I can see the dawn of the resurrection of the oppressed *in all lands* already gilding the hill-tops." Beautiful words and, we doubt not, sincerely spoken. But under a Business Government they would be left to the Parson in the pulpit or the Poet in the press. They are dangerous from the lips of the man in charge of the national cash-box. Business and Dreams do not go well together.

More Party Blarney.

Mr. Lloyd George will have to look to his laurels. Listen to this description, from the *Daily Chronicle*, of Mr. Redmond's speech at the National Liberal Club:

> A great hush fell over the meeting as, tense and rapt, it listened to the rich, vibrant voice, whose tones rose and fell in musical cadence, finally swelling out in a magnificent outburst. One listened with the same feeling of exaltation and delight that one does to solemn and beautiful music pealing forth from a cathedral organ.

But even this was put in the shade by the boast of the melancholy Mr. Dillon, that "the very fact of their being present in the National Liberal Club was a triumphant proof that they had *been able to get the English people to trust them.*" *What* a game it is!

Ramsay Runs.

We thought he would. Even the docile "workers" whom he was supposed to "lead" had begun to see through him. As *Labour* leader he has been the biggest fraud in, or out of, Parliament. *Now watch his next move.*

Radical Amenities.

It is wonderful how the Radical Press lets itself go when it does not happen to like a thing. Talk about Party loyalty! Here is the *Star* on Navy matters. It charges the Government with "deliberate confusion and premeditated muddle," with "hanky-panky and hocus-pocus"; it calls for "a policy of plain dealing" in substitution for the present system of "subterfuge and trickery"—and summing up the case generally against the Admiralty, it says, "In the realm of company flotation these methods would be regarded by business men as shady; on Epsom Downs they would call for the intervention of the police." When we were in the House, and occasionally criticised the Ministers, we were execrated by the *Star* and other Liberal organs—but we have yet to learn that we ever called Mr. Asquith a thief, or Mr. Churchill a welsher. South Hackney electors, please note!

The Starchfield Case.

Be prepared for a startling development next Monday. If you see it in JOHN BULL——!

£1,750 Offered for a Football Forecast. New Contest. See page 31.

Temperance (?) Legislation.

One of the consequences of recent "temperance legislation" is an increase of drunkenness among women. We refer to the "Children's Charter," which enacts that women accompanied by children shall not be served with intoxicants on licensed premises; and our authority for the statement is a volume just published by the *Daily News*, entitled "The Churches and London," from which we extract the following:—

> The effect of recent legislation, which keeps children out of public-houses, has been this—that women now drink outside public-houses, which is a scandal, and take more drink home than they used to do. . . . Drinking among women is a very glaring evil. They stand in groups outside the public-houses, drinking. This takes place mostly in the afternoon. Many of the women have infants in their arms, and others have little children clinging to their skirts.

So far as our recollection serves us, the *Daily News* was one of the hottest supporters of the measure it now condemns. We are not in the least surprised at the results of this mischievous Act. We foresaw them from the first, and have been seeing them ever since. As in the case of the stringent licensing laws of Scotland, the result has been diametrically opposite to that expected by the extremists. This will always prove the case with fanatical measures designed to restrict or restrain the habits of the people. A free nation declines to be made moral by Act of Parliament.

In Extremis.

What a trumpery game it is! Hardly have we heard the last of the wretched Marconi "scandal" when we have Lord Murray of Elibank—all good luck to him on his safe return!—asked to give an official denial of an incredibly stupid *canard*. In Messrs. Pearson's colossal undertaking, with which Lord Murray is now associated, there is of course room for all sorts and conditions of men, and among the younger geological engineers in their employ is one Lloyd George, who chances to be the son of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. With the discovery of this fact the gossip began, and it was soon stated, with some show of authority, that this young man was engaged in negotiations with certain South American Governments, with a view to securing valuable mining concessions for the English firm. With a variety of innuendoes it was implied, if not actually suggested, that Lloyd George *père* might contrive to profit by the persuasive eloquence with which he is traditionally supposed to have endowed his promising son. Was ever sillier rubbish heard outside Bedlam? To such a pass have Party politics come. The end cannot be far off. Delirium has already set in.

Fourteen Days' Hard.

Though it is true that Edward Lewis, "a painter, walking from London to Portsmouth to try and get a job in the docks there," had been before the Petersfield Magistrates in 1911 for peddling without a licence, that does not seem very substantial justification for Mr. W. C. Burley, J.P., sentencing him to 14 days' hard for a similar offence in 1914. The man was caught red-handed selling picture postcards, and when searched had twopence in his possession. "I sympathise with you," said the Magistrate, "but you must get a certificate if you want to sell things." How he was to raise the money for the purpose the Magistrate did not explain, as magistrates seldom do in such cases. This is the worst of being poor. You must not steal, you must not beg, you must not sleep in the open, you must not wander about without visible means of subsistence, and you must not sell. The only thing you are allowed to do in such cases in this country is to throw yourself on the rates. Not much of a country for Jesus of Nazareth!

Pestilent Pretenders.

The West Ham Coroner recently held an inquiry into the death of a two-months old child who, it appeared, had received treatment at the hands of a local "herbalist" named Purdue. The mother declared that the baby "came over fittified," and she thereupon took it to Purdue's shop, believing him to be competent to administer medical relief. The man diagnosed the case as one of pneumonia, giving the mother medicine and a quantity of lotion. He saw the child on two further occasions, and upon hearing of its death actually had the effrontery to issue a sort of certificate, alleging pneumonia as the cause of death. A subsequent autopsy by a qualified medical man revealed the fact that this disease was not in fact present, but that the infant had died from an acute attack of meningitis. Upon these facts, the Coroner's jury thought fit to return a verdict of death from natural causes, with a distinctly expressed wish that their finding should be recorded "without comment." We can hardly imagine a state of affairs calling more emphatically for public protest, and we are at a loss to understand the jury's reticence. These unscrupulous "quacks," with their mischievous affectation of medical skill, are a standing menace to the health, and frequently to the lives, of the poor. Where are the police?

An Unworthy Dictum.

When Thomas M'Laren was charged at the Ruthin Assizes with a serious offence, the evidence for the prosecution appeared unusually strong, and Mr. Justice Avory thought fit to sum up in a manner which afforded the prisoner scant hope of acquittal. The jury, however, after lengthy deliberation, failed to agree upon a verdict, and upon their return to Court the foreman intimated that there was in their judgment an element of doubt in the case, to the benefit of which the accused was entitled. This was, of course, tantamount to a finding of Not Guilty, and a verdict to this effect was accordingly entered. Thereupon, the learned Judge remarked: "I am sorry to find any jury giving encouragement for such outrages as this." His Lordship's purpose was clearly to imply his complete disagreement with the jury's indefinite conclusion, but we could wish he had contrived to convey this impression in happier and fairer terms. The rule that a prisoner is entitled to the full benefit of any reasonable doubt which may occur to the minds of the most sceptical of jurymen is an unassailable canon of our jurisprudence; while the suggestion that a prisoner's acquittal is inspired by a desire to encourage, or even an unwillingness to repress, crime is as monstrous as it is absurd.

A Practical Proposal.

The injustice of sending poor men to gaol for default in payment of fines—a matter which we have been ventilating for years—is at last beginning to attract some amount of notice in certain of our contemporaries; but, as far as we know, no one has yet put forward a practical alternative to the present system, which operates so harshly towards the poor. Surely, however the matter is perfectly simple. A man who has not the wherewithal to pay his fine should be permitted to "work it out" at some form of labour. In other words, a penniless culprit should be allowed to discharge his liability in the only commodity which he possesses—the labour of his hands. We do not suggest that the State should compete with private manufacturers by the sale of goods produced by forced labour. No such peril is involved in our proposal, which might easily be freed from economic objection. But there should be a clear line of demarcation between the offences punishable in terms of money, and those involving sentence of imprisonment. The first should be visited with "money" or "labour" fines—gaol being reserved for real criminals.

Result of our No. 9 Football Contest. All the Winners on page 5.

A Soft Job.

Here is a decent job going begging. An assistant manager is required in the Mathematical Office of the Survey of India. He must be a young man between the age of 24 and 30, and must "have experience in foundry work, pattern making, modern machine tools designing instruments and optical work, and should be able to teach how to repair or manufacture any of the instruments that are kept in the Mathematical Instrument Office for issue. He must be well up in testing and adjusting all instruments, such as theodolites, levels, barometers, thermometers, telescopes and binoculars. He should understand the working of circular and straight dividing machines, be able to set them up and teach others to do so. He should also, when required, be able to set up any modern automatic machine tools and direct any of the work of a general mechanical shop." As the qualifications for the post are of such an elementary character, the Indian Survey Office will have trouble in dealing with the mass of correspondence.

Criminal Carelessness.

The conviction of a miner at Swadlincote for smoking within a foot or two of the powder magazine of the Granville Colliery at Burton-on-Trent, gives point to suggestions which have reached us from time to time to the effect that those engaged in the mines are by no means as careful as they should be in the use of lighted matches It seems scarcely credible that men should be found to trifle with mighty risks in this fashion, and we should have thought that the severe penalties attending such indiscretions, when discovered, would have afforded an effective check. There is a sense in which such neglect of simple precautions on the part of the colliers plays directly into the hands of the negligent coal owner. Wise miners will observe with scrupulous nicety every provision of the law, and insist, with all the effective pressure of which they are collectively capable, that the pit proprietors shall do the same. We are convinced that the general sanity of the mining population will endorse this view.

The Shell and the Oyster.

The fact that two litigants, a Mr. Godfrey, of Tewkesbury, and a Mr. Ebner, of London, have been fighting a case for £32 and will now be lucky if they get out at £300 each, has induced Mr. Justice Horridge to tell a Gloucester jury that "If ever there was a case in which the plaintiff had reason to wish he had never been born and the defendant to wish he were dead, this is one." Some men enjoy litigation as they enjoy pickled onions or cold pudding, and possibly these gentlemen consider their legal experience a pleasant outing for the money. Besides, is it quite cricket for Mr. Justice Horridge to pass from the Bar to the bench in order to round on the lawyers who swallow oysters and throw litigants the shells? Even lawyers must live; though they will regret to note that his Lordship does not think it necessary.

Another Good Man.

There are special qualities about Mr. John Butterworth, of 42, Main Street, Hugglescote, which induce us to think that his conviction at Leicester for an act of indecency with a woman in a public thoroughfare merits our notice. That is to say, Mr. Butterworth is a member of the Hugglescote Church Council, Sidesman at Hugglescote Parish Church, a Sunday-school teacher, and a member of the Bible class. Whether he will now be invited to sing in the choir and lead the prayer meeting at the street corner we do not know; but it is really necessary, in the interest of souls in Hugglescote, that Mr. Butterworth should quit, and be quick about it.

The Pit Pony Again.

Every time we have anything to say in cases of cruelty to pit ponies two or three people, mining managers usually, almost fall over each other in their rush to assure us that, so far from being what it is represented, the lot of the pit pony is an exceptionally delightful one. We do not think so. We believe—and for years have been saying—there are hundreds of cases of the most shocking cruelty to these poor beasts which are never heard of. Now and again they come to light, as the other day at Cannock, where two infamous brutes were fined 40s., one of them for beating a pony with a pit-axe and inflicting wounds three inches long and two inches across; the other for belabouring a pony with a "lever" twenty or thirty pounds in weight. Next week these same magistrates will probably be giving somebody a month's hard labour for sleeping in the open air, three months' for begging "a drink of water," or fourteen days' for peddling without a licence. O Justice, Justice, what things are done in thy name!

Proposed Strike against Babies.

Not improbably, the Bishop of London (who, being a bachelor and not having any babies of his own, thinks it exceedingly wicked that other people should not have as many as possible) will be very shocked with the Rev. W. R. Harvey, the Northampton Congregational minister who has been telling a chapel full of people that sometimes he wonders whether the best strike we could organise would not be one against bringing little boys and girls into the world until we make our towns and cities a little better to receive them, our factories and shops more honest and righteous. "To keep little boys and girls in Heaven until we get the world a little shipshape, is this," he asked, "too bold an idea?" Well, one of our readers wishes us to tell him that he ought to be hanged for propounding it; but on consideration we have decided to draw the line at a few other people first. We must keep our rope for those who need it most. And we like the idea of little boys and girls coming from Heaven!

English as She is Japanned.

The announcement of the *Peking Daily News* that the Tory leader, Bonar Law, stated in a recent speech that the negotiations with the Government have failed and the civil war in Deland may be expected, is by no means a bad example of English as she is Chineed; but the highly-coloured jelly-wrapping now before us, sent from Nagasaki, is a much better example of English as she is Japanned. "There was," it states, "a verification to many prominent doctor that none such is so pure sweet nourish—and sanitary jelly specially for child and weakening of the body. And we are so proud to advantage—to you—customers, that it was useful by our Majestic Imperial House. Hiromiya Tamamoto & Co." If anybody wants a penn'orth he now knows where to get it.

N.U.R. and Politics.

A Brecon member of the National Union of Railwaymen is very bitter against the determination of the Executive to compel a levy of 1s. per member for the political representation of the Union in Parliament. He states that members who do not wish to contribute must apply for an exemption form, and those who do not fill up this form will have the Parliamentary fee to pay, in spite of the Osborn judgment. "Thousands will not pay this contribution," he says, "and why should the N.U.R. demand a printed form duly filled up and signed simply because a member doesn't agree to support any Tom, Dick, and Harry the Executive like to run in any constituency? If they want to run candidates by members' subscriptions, let members who wish to subscribe do so, and leave the rest alone."

"Bullets"—More Popular than Ever. Try a Shot this week. See page 28.

Dismal Doctrine.

Dean Inge, of melancholy fame, recently delivered a delightful homily upon what he was pleased to call the uses of pain. "It must be remembered," he declared, "that the symbol of our religion is an instrument of torture, and from the very first Christianity has taught that pain was sent by God for our good and that it was capable of being transmuted into a higher good." Whether the gloomy cleric had the least idea of what he meant by this peculiarly flagrant sample of dyspeptic religiosity, we are unable to say, but it is surely high time that our accredited pastors and masters had done with such barbarous notions of the purpose of Deity. Religion, in so far as it is superior to mere superstition, has human happiness as its sole end and aim; and, unless we have grossly misread the New Testament story, this was the primary concern and the unfailing theme of the Founder of the Faith. Meanwhile, we should like to hear Dean Inge a little further upon the subject, when next he has a bout of the toothache—to mention but one of life's lesser ills.

A Vindictive Policeman.

Judging by what happened in a case at the West Kirrier Sessions a few days ago, the chief policeman in that part of Cornwall ought to have his knuckles rapped A man had been fined 1s. and 4s. 6d. costs for letting a cow stray on the highway. Though the fine was not a large one, he could not pay it, and asked for time, but because when he put his hand in his pocket Superintendent Nicholls heard a few coppers jingle, that officer exclaimed to the magistrates, "I would ask for a distress warrant at once, and that will mean 3s 6d more on the costs." Happily the magistrates did not allow themselves to be led away by this astonishing outburst of petty vindictiveness, but gave the defendant a week in which to pay. Nicholls is evidently a type of glorified policeman who doesn't quite know or doesn't quite realise, the appropriate amenities of his position. He had better get to know them as quickly as possible.

Wholesome Physic.

Nearly all the chapels now arrange a sort of "Pleasant Sunday Afternoon" gathering, at which more or less worldly laymen are invited to address the faithful. We have nothing whatever to urge against the practice, believing, as we emphatically do, that a man has as much right to choose his own religious exercises as he has to choose his own drinks or neckties. There is, moreover, a wholesome strain about some of these lay sermons. Thus, on a recent Sabbath, Mr. S. T. Coodger, a director of the Clapton Orient Football Club, addressed the assembled company at Approach Road Congregational Church, Victoria Park. "I would rather be a sweet sinner than a sour saint, whose acerbity and hypocrisy keep so many young men away from church," said he. Straight talk of this description can do the church-going public no manner of harm. Truth is the best tonic for moral anæmia.

Same Old Game.

"Japanese Party Cries," reads a contemporary headline, from which it appears that the newest of our competitors is strenuously bent upon the good old game. Instead of "Tories" and "Radicals," the "Satsumas" and the "Katsuras" are struggling for supremacy in the land of the Rising Sun, and the issue at the moment hangs in suspense. We notice that, as with us, the question of armaments is well to the fore, while commercial problems hold a minor, though a by no means inconsiderable place. How hard it is to remember that by scrip, seal and parchment Japan is our bonded ally! We shall see!

Cheating the Law.

Emily Jonas, a single woman residing at East Dereham, contracted debts to the amount of 11s. 7d., and then contumaciously refused to meet her creditors. For this untoward conduct she was summoned to the local County Court, where, after due formality, a committal order was issued against her. The prospect of prison, however, appears to have been by no means to the young lady's liking, and she hit upon a happy expedient for the evasion of the rigour of the law. She explained the position to her sweetheart, who promptly agreed to marry her forthwith, in order that she might enjoy the immunity which our jurisprudence affords to married women. Apprised of the debtor's altered station, Judge Mulligan, K.C., declared himself impotent to enforce the judgment of the Court. A married woman is liable for debt only in respect of her separate estate, and as Emily has no estate apart from that of her spouse she goes free. The law, for all its terrors, is not unlike the traditional bull dog. "'E's all right when yer knows 'im, but you've got to know 'im fust."

At Bures St. Mary.

This from the parish magazine of Bures St. Mary, Suffolk; Vicar, the Rev. J. E. Varley: "Unbaptised persons are not entitled to Christian marriage or Christian burial." Is our baptised Christian friend starting a dog cemetery anywhere? As for marriage, those unbaptised in Bures St. Mary who feel they would rather not keep single can have a nice short cheap Christian ceremony at the nearest registry office, and there tie a knot with their tongues they'll be matched ta undo wi' their teeath. The intervention or non-intervention of the Rev. J. E. Varley in either marriage or burial was never contemplated by the Lord, and will not make a button's worth of difference in this life or in the life to come. What with Kikuyu and what with Bures St. Mary—well, these clerical formularians will presently be claiming that nobody who hasn't been baptised is entitled to Christian birth.

Dignity and Davies.

Few people in Barmouth will blame Dr. Pugh Jones, J.P., Chairman of the District Council, for summarily closing the deliberations by leaving the chair at the last meeting. There is a species of bounder who has been brought into public life since every community with a pump or a gas lamp took to "managing its own affairs"; and Mr. D. E. Davies, of the Barmouth Council, seems to be one of them. With no other provocation than that Dr. Jones declined to put one of his propositions—no matter what—to the meeting, Mr. Davies shouted out, "Then I say you are no more fit to be in the chair than a dead donkey!" This sort of thing is of course intolerable to any Chairman who respects himself or his office, and the members who followed Dr. Jones out of the room on the refusal of the ill-mannered Davies to apologise are to be commended for the course they took.

Bechuanaland Missionary's Soft Job.

One of our readers in the Bechuanaland Protectorate writes to us about a rev. gentleman employed by the London Missionary Society to convert the heathen who in blindness bows down to wood and stone. This missionary has waxed exceeding fat and unctuous, lives in a good house, owns a Cape cart, mules, and horses, and draws a fine salary. He holds a service twice a day on Sundays, and is invisible for the rest of the week. As to visiting the natives when they are sick, or burying them when they are dead, "he has never been known to do so." The natives comment freely about it; but "Bechuanaland is a long way from London." That is probably where he has the advantage. No doubt, however, his "reports" are all right.

5,073 CASH Prizes to be Won this week. See page 28.

Everybody's Doing It.

Bowland Education Committee, extánt in Yorkshire, are astounded that they haven't received any applications for the post of caretaker to Gisburn School at a wage which works out at sevenpence a day, less deductions for cost of materials. So astounded, indeed, that on the motion to invite tenders for the work, one of the Committee, a rev. gentleman named Hislop, complained that everybody seemed bent on trying to get as much as he could. This is not to say that by "everybody" the rev. gentleman intended to include himself, nor to suppose that though the disciples got their living by catching fish, he would regard sevenpence a day as adequate payment for the holy office. We will not suggest that in his own particular case it would be too much, but without a scruple we do say that for a caretaker of Gisburn School it is too little, and that the rev. gentleman and his colleagues ought to be ashamed of themselves for offering it.

RESULT OF OUR NINTH FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

OUR £1,000 PRIZE WON. THE CRANKS AGAIN CONFOUNDED.

Just a little pen scratch would have given one of our competitors £2,500, or £5 a Week for Life. Think of it—forty-nine readers, by their exercise of skill, had each but one little, solitary error! A fortune missed by a fraction! The result, however, will again confound the cranks and fadists of the "Millions to One" School.

We would point out that we entirely ignored the Pontypridd *v.* Luton match, which was down to be played on January 31st. We learned, when it was too late to alter our coupon, that the game had been brought forward, and had been played in November. However, that fact was all in favour of our competitors, who had one less result to forecast. The names and addresses of the competitors who had but one error on their coupons, and who consequently share the £1,000, are as given below. Each receives £20 8s. 2d.

[illegible], 6, Francis-rd., Codpenmaen, Pontypridd; Appleby, John [illegible], Warford, Alderley Edge; Batt, Thomas, 1, High-st., Beau[illegible]; Bramley, Lilly, 16, Market st., Fernhill, Bury; Brady, J., 4, [illegible] House, North Bridge, Colchester; Blundell, W., 35, Berridale-rd., [illegible]; Brennan, T., 16a, Union-st., Oldham; Coats, F. D., 5, Third-st., [illegible] Colliery, Durham; Clear, W. A., 9, Gladstone-terr., Ferryhill [illegible]; Durham; Cornwell, Thos., 10, Twyford-st., London, N.; Davis, [illegible], Waterloo-rd., Wolverhampton; Farms, H., Baptist-lane, Measham, [illegible]; Gent, H., 59, Green-st., Bolton; Goodall, G., 22, Manchester-st., [illegible], Stafford; Gosden, Francis, 118, Middlewich-rd., nr. Northwich; Grason, [illegible], Oxford-st., Whitley Bay; Higgs, David, 12, Iris-st., Kirkdale, Liver[illegible]; Jones, Frank, 9, Bryn Gwyn-st., Fleur-de-lis, Pengam, Mon; Green, [illegible], Beckett-st., Attercliff, Sheffield; Greenwood, J., 65, High-st. West, [illegible]; Higson, P., 21, Sewerby-st., Moss Side, Manchester; Harris, R., [illegible], Stafford; Hatton, N., Bericene, Falmouth-rd., Penketh, War[illegible]; Howe, F. F. (Sergt.), The Barracks, Hertford; Higgs, Mary, 43, [illegible], St. Helens; Hill, James, 37, High-st., Stamford, Lincs.; Lassenden, [illegible], Bandsman, 1st Wilts Regt., Tidworth; McCluskey, H., 12, Dunstall-st., [illegible], Matthews, L., 42, Havelock-rd., Birchfields; Newell, Mrs., 64, [illegible], Bury St. Edmunds; Pinnan, W., 60, Sandy-lane, Stretford, Man.; [illegible], Soldier., Clym, nr. Neath; Parker, H. P., 13, Chapelfield-rd., [illegible], Manchester; Robertson, Hawking, 25, East View, Norden, Rochdale; [illegible], 16, Atherton-rd., Hindley, Lancashire; Rogerson, Miss L., 7, [illegible], Eccles, Lancs; Smith, J. H., 16, Dale-terr., Lingdale, Boosbeck, [illegible]; Smith, Mrs. A., 11, Wesley-rd., Kiveton Park, Sheffield; Sutton, Mrs., [illegible], Robert, Sunderland; Smith, Chas., 16, Kimberley-st., Wigan; [illegible], L. G., Potter's Green, High Cross, Ware; Salmon, Ernest, 53, Albert [illegible]; Story, William, 31, John-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Smith, Arthur, [illegible], Grimsby, Lincolnshire; Sue, L., 3, West End, Chipping Norton; [illegible], Miss M., 7, Brocklehurst-st., New Cross, London; Thompson, Mrs. C., [illegible], Darlington; Wilkinson, A. E., 14, William's-pl., St. James-[illegible], Wm., 90, Holker-st., Barrow-in-Furness.

The £20 Prize for the best forecast on a *Mary Bull* Save Coupon is shared by the following 21 competitors, each of whom receives £2 7s. 8d.:—

[illegible], The Gardens, Pegmoor, Barnsley; Bennett, Mrs., Thetwall [illegible], Cheshire; Barnsley, Elizabeth, 25, Morton-st., Burnley; Baxter, [illegible], Colebridge, Wisbech; Bennett, Mrs. V., 21, Chatsworth-ave., [illegible], Nottingham; Brown, Mrs. E., 31, Granville-st., Wolverhampton; [illegible], Mrs., Runcorn-rd., Barnton, nr. Northwich; Devonport, [illegible], Thompson-st., Ferryhill, Durham; Ellis, Mrs. F., 3, Caxton-[illegible], Tamworth; Fraser, Mrs., M. A., 60, Legaby-ave., Grimsby; Hewitt, [illegible], Town-lane, Motterley, Ches.; Jones, Mrs. M., 48, Ritson-st., [illegible], Kirkham; Mary, Manor House, Deardens, Bury; [illegible], Shaw's Brow, Kendal; Miller, Mrs. E., 62, Priory-st., [illegible], Morris, Mrs. H. C., 56, Newlands-rd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; [illegible], The Barrows, Cheddar, Somerset; McAuley, 135, Chandos-st., [illegible], Owens, Mrs. A. J., 69, Rosedale-rd., Birkenhead; Pitcher, [illegible], Clayton-le-Moors, Accrington; Rourke, Miss Harriet, [illegible], Wavertree, Liverpool.

For particulars of next Competition, see page 31.

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

CARDS.

[The City of London Guardians have decided to ask the Local Government Board to allow cards to be played in Homerton Infirmary, at the discretion of the medical officer. The Rev. Cleminti Smith said "Patience" was an excellent game to keep people quiet and to keep them from cursing and swearing. Mr. Evans opposed, on the ground that cards would encourage gambling.—News Item.]

In Homerton Infirmary
The hours, lead-footed, pass;
The brooding inmates, hopelessly,
Sad memories backward cast;
Whilst some, rebellious at the fate
Whose toils had dragged them there—
Dejected, huddled figures—sate
And muttered their despair.

Their minds, uncheered by harmless games,
Roamed down the vanished years,
Beheld again their shattered aims
With eyes bedimmed with tears;
Whilst others, made of sterner stuff—
And they were not the worst—
Brushed off their weakness with a cuff,
Opened their lips, and cursed.

One guardian watched their hapless case
With human sympathy,
And yearned to see each sullen face
Light up more cheerfully;
"It saddens me to hear them swear,
And curse their dreary day—
Give them some interest to share,
Get cards for them to play!"

And all agreed save one, and he—
Well, Evans was his name—
How fit a guardian to be
We blazon—to his shame;
"Far better they should swear and curse
As through the wards they ramble,
Than give them cards—their sin were worse
If they perchance should gamble!"

ENVOY:
Thus spoke the cruel Evans. But
We'd gladly have it noted,
When "cards" was to the meeting put,
"Saint" Evans was out-voted.

THE WEEK'S "BISCUIT."

[*"Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. Below we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For telling his audience that the fact of the Irish Members being entertained at the National Liberal Club "proved that the English people had learned to trust them."

MR. JOHN DILLON, M.P.,
Takes the Biscuit.

THE KING'S REAL SPEECH.

WHAT HIS MAJESTY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SAID.

At the time of going to press, we have not seen the King's Speech, with which Parliament will have been officially opened on Tuesday; but we print below what his Majesty would have liked his Ministers to let him say. Here it is:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

My relations with all foreign Powers continue to be of the most friendly and cordial character; but notwithstanding this satisfactory state of affairs, I require several more battleships of the latest and most formidable type, and a much larger Force for Home Defence, being satisfied that the friendship of my continental neighbours will ripen in proportion to the strength of my armaments.

I am sorry that my Canadian Dominion did not ratify the provisional promise made by its Prime Minister of the gift of two "Dreadnoughts" to my Navy. In view, however, of the cosmopolitan character of the Canadian population, the defeat of the suggestion is not a matter for surprise, there having been evidences amongst it for some time past of a growing spirit of independence towards the Mother Country, and of a tendency to closer alliance with the neighbouring States of the American Republic. In these circumstances, my Ministers are to be congratulated upon their foresight in not having acceded to the suggestion by the Leader of the Opposition of a vote of thanks to the Dominion for the two ships. Whilst on the subject of Canada, I desire to express my sympathy with the large number of my poorer subjects who have been inveigled by the specious misrepresentations of Canadian Emigration Agents into leaving my shores, only to find themselves in a worse plight on arrival in the already overcrowded labour market of the Dominion.

I regret the Industrial disturbances which have recently occurred in South Africa, and that they should have led to the necessity, in the opinion of the Union Government, to deport a body of British subjects from the Colony. Such a step should, in the opinion of my Ministers, have been taken only as a last resource, and then not until after consultation with my Governor-General, and, through him, with the Home Government, which in any case should have been consulted before the individuals in question were shipped to England. Whilst fully recognising the autonomy of the South African Union, its Government must ever bear in mind the fact that it rests upon the unstable foundation of military conquest, and that for many years to come its policy should be dictated by a vigilant regard to the susceptibilities of the British race.

The condition of affairs in my Indian Empire gives cause for some uneasiness, and I regret that certain of my faithful Commons, when visiting its shores, at times display a lack of appreciation of the delicacy of the thread which binds many millions of the coloured races to my sway and which may at any time snap as the result of injudicious utterances on the part of public men. It is my earnest desire to extend to all the natives as far as is practicable the blessings of freedom, but I am convinced that before they are fit to enjoy the rights and privileges of Western civilisation, they must pass through a natural process of human evolution.

I deplore the present conditions of affairs in Ireland. Whilst satisfied that my Ministers are genuinely desirous of removing the fundamental cause of the long standing dissatisfaction on the part of the majority of the Irish people with the existing system of government, I regret that in formulating their measures with this object in view they did not take sufficiently into account the sentiments of the Protestant population of North-East Ulster, and that it has been only as the result of armed demonstration by that section of my people that the true situation has been realised. I cannot believe that, menaced as my Empire is by so many outside dangers, you will fail me in finding an amicable and honourable solution of the present deadlock. If a substantial portion of the Irish people are satisfied to remain under my present rule, it would appear both unfair and impolitic to force any change upon them; whilst on the other hand the time has undoubtedly arrived when a great effort should be made to recognise that unsatisfied sentiment of nationality—on the part mainly of the Catholic population—which has so long been a factor of discord in the internal politics of the United Kingdom. Between these two extremes I am convinced the resources of wise and patriotic statesmanship will not fail to find a compromise. If necessary, a period of further delay must be allowed, to admit of honest effort for a settlement, and, to that end, I shall not hesitate to suspend my assent to the measure now before Parliament should it be sent to me at an early date. My first duty is to avoid civil war within my own dominions.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Estimates will be laid before you in due course for the expenses of the various public services. I regret that the provocative and unjustifiable naval ambition of certain foreign Powers renders necessary a large addition to the naval strength of the Empire. The only alternative to this course would appear to be for my Government to intimate at once to such Powers that in the view of Great Britain their legitimate requirements do not demand any expansion of their naval resources, and to request that in the interests of international peace no further augmentation should occur. I am satisfied that such a representation, supported as it would be by whatever personal influence my own House is capable of exercising with other reigning dynasties, would have the effect of ending the present disastrous race in naval armaments and of liberating for profitable employment vast sums of money now employed on wasteful and unproductive purposes.

The Army, too, will entail heavy demands upon the public purse. My vast possessions render necessary a perpetual drain upon the regular forces, and if Great Britain is to be immune from danger it is of urgent importance that the Home Defence should be strengthened.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

The following Bills will be submitted to you:—

A Bill to compel every boy who receives free education to join the Territorial Force, thus repaying the State for the benefits he has received.

A Bill to compel Bankers to disclose all dormant balances and unclaimed securities in their possession and to hand the same over to the Public Trustee.

A Bill to tax Betting, Stock and Share Speculations, Advertisements, Theatre Tickets and Bachelors.

A Bill for the reorganisation of the Board of Trade, the removal of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Speaker of the Irish Parliament from its membership, and the setting up of a Tariff Committee to prevent the abuse of the freedom of British ports.

A Bill to provide that in future the President of the Board of Trade shall be a person of Commercial training and experience; the President of the Board of Agriculture, an Agriculturist; the Chancellor of the Exchequer, a Financier; the First Lord of the Admiralty, a Sailor; and the Minister for War, a Soldier.

In conclusion, I rejoice to observe signs of a saner conception of government on the part of my people. It is gradually becoming recognised that Parliament should be the Business Committee of the Empire.

NOW GET TO WORK.

A CHURCH ARMY SCANDAL.

PREBENDARY CARLILE'S EXTRAORDINARY MISTAKES.

An ex-officer of the Social Branch of the Church Army, with over thirteen years' service to his credit, seems to have been treated very shabbily by the heads of that body. Joining in 1899, he was "commissioned" on January 4th, 1900, receiving a formal certificate to that effect, and became a member of the Church Army Brotherhood in the month of August following, his membership card, numbered 378, being before us as we write.

For eleven years the officer in question performed satisfactory service as Manager of various Labour Homes connected with the Army, his wife acting as Matron. His success was such as to induce the Committee at Headquarters, early in 1911, to ask him and his wife, at practically a moment's notice, to take over the management of the Southampton Home, where the occurrence of a scandal had necessitated re-organisation. The offer was accepted, on condition that they were placed on the same footing as their predecessors—in other words, that they should receive an increase of salary of 7s. 6d. a week. On reaching the place, however, the "new broom" received a letter authorising him to deduct from the funds an additional 2s. 6d. only. A respectful remonstrance brought a reply from Prebendary Carlile himself, stating that he approved of a rise on condition that the officer fell in fully with the regulations about "evangelical duty and no smoke." The first reference meant that the old officer would be required to pass a kind of examination, for which he had no time to prepare, and afterwards deliver two sermons a day. The Social officers had always regarded smoking as likely to attract the men, and it had, in fact, been encouraged by the heads of the Army at various times. In reply to a letter pointing this out, the Prebendary wrote: "I have been requested by the Executive to see if I can help you to obtain work outside the Society (I am not giving you notice) as you feel you cannot do evangelical work and you cannot give up the smoke"; and—after various compliments on his "honest, industrious labour," and an expression of opinion that he was a "good, Christian man, with excellent influence"—came the suggestion that the old officer should "look out for something where he could earn more." Mr. Carlile's next letter, dated April 12th, 1911, took up an extraordinary and mistaken attitude. It stated, "Only members of the Brotherhood can be *officers*; you should have qualified long ago, when I asked you," and wound up with the cheerful hope that "congenial occupation" would soon be found. However, matters were patched up, and seven months later the Business Secretary of the Army wrote the Manager:—

> I would take this opportunity of heartily congratulating you upon your careful management of the Home, and I can assure you we are grateful to you for reducing the various items of expenditure so that the Southampton Home cost has been decreased by about £200.

Four months, later, however, the Manager was instructed by this very same complimentary correspondent to take up office work at Headquarters, at the same salary, but without housing accommodation. He was naturally deeply hurt, and wrote protesting. Then actually came this re-assertion of the extraordinary error: "The reason you have been asked to leave Southampton Home is that you have declined to enter the Brotherhood"; coupled with additional cause, "and as you have refused to work under Mr. Jemmett at Headquarters as a clerk." The letter then proceeded to give him a month's notice, somewhat lessening the blow by stating that a grant of £12 would be made to him on leaving. The Army's old servant then came to London Headquarters and worked for some months as a junior clerk. He had little to do, and was made to feel the incongruity of his position. When he applied after some time for five days' holiday out of a period of three weeks to which he believed himself entitled, and also for the grant which officers of equal long service had received, the Committee gave him six weeks' wages, a grant of £25, and got rid of him.

We think this is a case into which the Committee o the Church Army should inquire without delay.

BUYING "A BOOK."

WARNING TO INSURANCE AGENTS.

The business of an insurance agent frequently possesses a substantial "goodwill," and to "buy a book" from a retiring Collector is the commonest mode of embarking upon this somewhat hazardous calling. In view of the widely-recognised practice, a case lately disposed of by the Grantham Borough Bench assumes interest. The defendant was a Collector, employed till recently by the Liverpool Victoria Legal Friendly Society, and the Society sought an order to compel him to deliver up his collecting book and certain other documents which he was alleged to have wrongfully detained.

There was no suggestion of fraud against the defendant, whose position in the matter was clearly defined. He had, it appears, acquired his connection with the Society's subscribers by the purchase of a collecting book, for the sum of £75, having effected this investment of his savings in the full belief that he would enjoy reasonable fixity of tenure as a collecting agent of the concern. Unhappily, however, certain misunderstandings appear to have arisen between himself and his principals, and in October last he received fourteen days' notice to terminate his appointment. The precise grounds of disagreement between the parties has not been made clear, but it is obvious that such a notice destroyed at a stroke the valuable interest which he had acquired for cash. In these circumstances, he had retained his book, in the hope that he might be able to dispose of it to a purchaser and thus in some measure avert the serious loss with which he was faced.

Accepting this version of the matter, the Bench directed the return of the book and papers, at the same time ordering the defendant to contribute £6 6s. towards the Society's costs. The poor fellow's position is, thus, a most unhappy one. His hard-earned savings are gone, his means of livelihood are cut off, and he is at the same time mulcted in a severe monetary impost. It does not appear that he has been guilty of any serious impropriety in his business conduct, and upon the facts before us, we are bound to hold that a palpable injustice has been done. He should, we think, have been given time to dispose of his book.

THE "CITIZEN" FRAUD.

WAKE UP, TRADE UNIONISTS!

The present position of the *Daily Citizen* is eloquent of the ineptitude of its amateur management. Despite its heavy subsidies from Trade Union funds, the journal is actually being run at a loss of something like £100 for each day of publication. It is sailing merrily on to financial wreck to the tune of £30,000 per annum. At the recent Labour Conference it was stated that unless a sum of £14,000 were immediately forthcoming, disaster must swiftly ensue. Dearth of advertisements is said to be largely responsible for the lamentable state of affairs, but as the merest tyro knows, circulation and advertising revenue go hand in hand, and the plain fact is that the *Citizen*, with all its charms, is not the kind of daily newspaper that the workers want. Why should they be compelled to support, by compulsory levies, a journal upon which, left to themselves, they won't spend their halfpennies?

This is the crux of the position, and there is evidence that trade unionists are waking up to the fact that they are being shamefully imposed upon.

A member of the United Kingdom Society of Coachmakers recently sought an injunction to restrain his Society from enforcing a compulsory levy for the subsidising of the paper. This action was taken on behalf of many members of the Union who object to the levy in question. In view of our repeated contention that all such imposts are illegal, it is interesting to note that the Executive of the Society were afraid to contest the matter in open court. They instructed counsel to submit to an injunction with an agreement as to costs. The illegality of such forced levies thus stands admitted.

If the *Citizen* gentry want a daily journal for the dissemination of their personal fads and foibles, then in the name of common honesty let them pay for it themselves!

"Bullets" Judging has been Judged by Competitors and found—perfect.

FOOTBALLERS, BEWARE OF ARREST!

DON'T PLAY WITH SOLDIERS—EVEN WHEN ON FURLOUGH.

Colonel Seely has a lot to do yet if he would popularise the Army, and place it on a commonsense footing. He is undoubtedly devoting himself very earnestly to the task, but, apparently, he is heavily handicapped by some of his subordinates. We draw attention below to two cases of the most pig-headed blundering conceivable, and we call upon the Secretary for War to institute at once an inquiry into the facts. As matters at present stand, it looks as though a gross insult has been perpetrated upon the whole football world—civilian players apparently being considered unfit for an ordinary soldier to associate with. We venture to think that the football authorities should also take up the first case we mention, and demand a full explanation. We do not apologise for the heading of our article. If the Military Court Martial was right, then every club which permits a soldier, *even when on furlough*, to take part in its games, may be aiding and abetting a breach of the King's Regulations and rendering all its members liable to arrest! What are we coming to? Had the fact of one of the clubs being connected with a distillery anything to do with the trouble?

The First Case.

Our two stories have reference to the 1st Dorset Regiment, stationed at Belfast. On Saturday, January 24th, Private Lewis Richard Lewis was present at a football match between two Irish League clubs—Distillery and Glentoran. One of the players fell ill, whereupon Lewis, who is known as a clever "inside right," was requested, and consented, to take part in the game. Proceeding to the pavilion he commenced to undress, when he was approached by Sergeant England of his regiment, who was in civilian clothes, and who, it appears, had been sent to the ground by the Officer-in-charge of the Sports Club of the Dorset Regiment, with written orders that if he saw Lewis playing for the Distillery team he was to prevent him doing so, and order him to return at once to barracks. The Non-Commissioned officer carried out his orders, in so far as he acquainted Lewis that he was not to play. Naturally the private soldier was amazed. The order was all the more surprising because Lewis was, as a matter of fact, on furlough until midnight, January 30th. Such being the case, it is not astonishing that he told the Sergeant he should play football. Here the emissary of military law and order was on the horns of a dilemma. A private soldier actually refusing to obey an order! Of course an escort should have been furnished at once, and Lewis marched off the field. But there were thousands of spectators waiting to see football, and the escort would surely have got their heads smashed, so the Sergeant very wisely refrained from calling upon his comrades, returned to barracks, and made his report to the autocratic officer who had sent him on the fool's errand. In the meantime, the game was played, after which Lewis commenced to think of his position, and as a matter of fact discussed it with some of the Club's Committee.

Now in the Army an Order is an Order. No matter how idiotic, it must be obeyed. "Obey first and complain afterwards" is the rule as laid down in the Manual of Military Law. Lewis explained this to his civilian chums, and eventually it was decided that he should return to barracks, which he did within an hour after the termination of the game.

Arrest and Court Martial.

Immediately upon entering the barrack gates he was arrested, placed in a cell, and charged with "not complying with an Order." Non-military readers will please note that here was a decent young lad, actually on leave from his regiment on a holiday, yet he is arrested and placed in a cell, like a common felon, for no crime whatever! But let us see what follows. One of the Club officials, seeing the injustice of the whole affair, made his way to the Orderly Room and respectfully asked that he might purchase his friend's discharge, actually producing the money. He was told to get out of barracks. After being kept in a dirty cell a week, Lewis was tried by District Court Martial and found "guilty." The intelligent members of this Court were Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Welman, A.S.C., Captain R. Clark, 1st Norfolks, and Lieutenant J. M. Pitt, 1st Dorsets. During the course of the evidence it transpired that the officer who signed the order for Lewis' return was Major W. Sykes Banks.

Lewis pleaded "Not guilty," and explained to the Court that he did not know that when a soldier was on furlough it was necessary to obtain his Commanding Officer's permission before playing a game of football. He had previously played for Woking, Portsmouth, and Glentoran when on furlough, and there had never been any objection. To the President of the Court he urged that he had committed no kind of crime, and that he did not think the order he had received from Sergeant England was of such an urgent nature that he should return to barracks there and then. Then Lewis was asked the following question: "Have you ever been warned against playing for civilian teams?" His answer was emphatic, "No! But I have been asked not to play for civilian teams but to assist military ones." This was evidently too much for the Court's simian brains, for they found Lewis "guilty," and he was marched back to his cell.

After a lapse of three days—during which time no doubt careful consideration was given as to whether Lewis should be shot—*he was awarded 28 days' imprisonment*. He is to be sent to Dublin to serve this sentence.

A Second Case.

Now for the second incident, and probably the same officer is concerned as in the first case.

Whilst a regimental football match was being played, one of the team left the field, as he was seized with cramp. He was ordered to return and play, but as he was almost crippled he retired to barracks and comforted himself with some tea, and sat by the fire. The following day he was brought before his Commanding Officer, and charged with "Leaving the field without permission"—punishment, 14 days' confinement to barracks! Was there ever such tomfoolery?

One thing is perfectly clear. Lewis must be released at once; after which a full inquiry must be held as to the sanity of certain officers of the Dorset Regiment. Can it be that Carson's Army has placed them in a state of funk? The whole thing is pitiable—especially at a moment when thousands of pounds of the tax-payers' money is being spent to advertise the advantages of the Army. The whole spirit which gives life to the British Army is suppressed by the pernicious system of so-called discipline. Officers in a modern army should cultivate common-sense, and those who are unable to acquire that art should be given "the order of the boot." Too many irksome restrictions are placed on the men during non-working hours, and too much importance is attached to Regulations as set forth in the Manual of Military Law—rules and regulations which are, by the way, totally out of keeping with twentieth-century ideas. Indeed, this very Manual of Military Law was derided in the House of Commons by the late Sir Charles Dilke. He stigmatised it as "a barbarous military code." Discipline is good; without it an army would be a mob. But discipline to be successful must be so enforced as to bring out the highest qualities of men—not to madden them with arbitrary forms and futile insult!

It is this false "discipline" which lies at the root of military discontent. It is responsible for most of the desertions. It is the cause of the Service being unpopular. Colonel Seely is making strenuous endeavours to re-shape the Army, but he will not succeed if he cannot get the co-operation of those who are in actual touch with the men. The majority of our officers, we are pleased to say, are sportsmen in every sense of the word, but there are exceptions, of the type referred to above—and they should be got rid of without delay. Once and for all, it must be brought home to the military authorities that when a lad joins the Army he does not sell his soul; and the private should be made to understand that he is "a soldier *and a man*."

TIPS FOR THE TONGUE-TIED.

TRY, TRY, TRY AGAIN!

The "money back" wheeze, though useful as an advertising flourish, rarely works smoothly in practice, and we are never surprised to learn that friction has arisen between persons who have essayed to do business on such terms. At the same time, we confess to a measure of sympathy with a South London reader who has been sadly disappointed in his efforts to cure himself of a distressing impediment in speech. Anxious above all things to be rid of his stammering propensity, our correspondent placed himself under the expert tuition of Mr. J. Herbert Miall, of 6, Argyll Place, Regent Street, W., upon the understanding that, should he receive no benefit in the course of a reasonable number of lessons, his money should be refunded.

Upon the value of Mr. Miall's peculiar methods of instruction for "lisping, stammering tongues," we scarcely feel qualified to pass an opinion. He claims to have profited by "a recent discovery for the treatment of stammering and defects of speech." Lesson sheets are provided, and each pupil is urged to practise for at least twenty minutes a day. The second of these "test lessons" is before us, and we are fain to admit that it is one of the most fearsome documents with which we were ever confronted—which is saying a good deal. Here is a brief extract:

> Erd—inner is ready at one o'eecl—ock but ery—ou eec—ann—ot erf—ind an app—et—ite ob—ef—ore ertw—o. Ern—ed serch—in is ert—oo opr—on—ounced erf—or ob—eauty ob—ut it ersh—ews a sp—ushful erd—isp—os—it—ion erth—at eeg—oes erw—ith ert—act.

Of course, for aught we know, this kind of thing may be child's play to a man with an impediment in his speech, but, for ourselves, we are satisfied that twenty minutes of it every day for a week would make us splutter like a charged siphon for the rest of our natural life. Our correspondent apparently failed to "get the hang of it"—at any rate, he made scant progress, and at the end of a course of eight lessons he felt justified in demanding his money back. In a letter to his pupil, Mr. Miall makes it perfectly clear that he has no vestige of claim to any such refund of cash. Having explained that our correspondent's failure is due—as we surmised—to disregard of instructions, he writes:—

> You need a Special Practice for starting the words with the breath, you are apt to let it out first, and then it is too late—and you want to remember to press the tongue down hard at the roof, as you take the breath before speaking, and then gently press the breath forward without too much excitable effort.

What could be more seductively simple? A man who disregards such limpid instructions can hardly expect to get his cash back when he fails. We fancy our correspondent is prone to do with his money what he is apt to do with his breath, *vide* the above quotation—and with a similar result.

ONLY A HORSE!

HOW THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE IS SATISFIED.

Would that the members of the "Board" of Agriculture were all followers of the Sport of Kings! They would then have a higher regard for equine flotsam and jetsam than they would seem to possess at present, if one can judge from their Annual Report for 1912, which, after stating that "the exportation of old horses to the Continent is now carried on under greatly improved conditions," goes on to say that "the total number of horses shipped to Antwerp during 1912 was 17,027. . . . The deaths amounted to 38, principally due to chest and abdominal causes, and 30 were killed on landing. . . . 5,891 horses were exported to Amsterdam . . . the injuries reported were only 31 for the year. The deaths numbered 84."

If there were 122 deaths among the poor animals before they were landed, how many were shipped in bodily agony and died on arrival? Perhaps there would be an improvement if the "Board's" veterinary surgeon were permitted to devote his whole time to his work, instead of being employed upon the Foot and Mouth Disease Orders, which should be carried out by someone else.

A PIG IN A POKE.

THE DIPLOMA DODGE AGAIN.

Attracted by a catchy advertisement, a Welsh reader recently applied for a position as a commercial traveller, stating his qualifications, and desiring fuller particulars. In reply, he received a curious communication, signed "Spencer Graham," and dated from 137, Oxford Street, London, W., which he has now forwarded for our inspection. The document bears no business heading, and the contents afford no clue to the identity of those responsible for it. The nature of Mr. Spencer Graham's proposal to unemployed "commercials" will be seen from the following extracts:—

> I act for an important Institute connected with the tea trade. Suitable applicants are admitted as Fellows of the Institute, and a handsome Diploma is issued. Your duty would be to call upon likely traders and induce them to apply for admission as Fellows.

At the first blush, the hawking of nondescript and probably worthless "diplomas" would scarcely appear to afford much scope for the energy and resource of an experienced trade commission-agent. It is, however, explained that grocers and tea-dealers have in many instances been willing to pay handsomely for the semblance of superior distinction, and that the Institute has already secured an extensive *clientele*. The circular proceeds:—

> Our agents are making big money, and you should make a handsome income from the appointment. The fees for admission as a Fellow and the Diploma are One Guinea, and half the fees are yours.

Assuming that the market for waste-paper is as flourishing as Mr. Graham suggests, it cannot be said that these terms are ungenerous. It appears, however, that there are certain preliminary formalities to be observed. Thus:—

> Should you desire to avail yourself of this unique opportunity, please send a personal reference, and also enclose a deposit of 10s. 6d., when a specimen Diploma shall be sent to you, together with all necessary forms and full instructions.

To our correspondent, here was the rub. Rightly or wrongly, he did not regard the proposal as a gilt-edged security, and he therefore held his hand. Who is Spencer Graham, and why are his principals undisclosed?

"LEEDS SANITARY SCANDAL."

A WORD TO THE RATEPAYERS.

In our issue of December 13th we referred at some length to certain substantiated charges of negligence against the Leeds City Council, preferred by Mr. J. A. Simpson, a farmer of Stainbeck Lane, Leeds. It may be remembered that Mr. Simpson had lost his wife as a result of an outbreak of typhoid fever, directly traceable to grossly insanitary conditions which had long prevailed in the drainage of his farm. In seeking to palliate its grave dereliction of public duty, the Council advanced a plea which we venture to characterise as a "shameful confession." In view of the sinister significance of the admission in question, we reproduce it. In a memorandum to the Local Government Board, the Town Clerk wrote:—

> From time to time friction has arisen owing to Inspectors pressing owners strongly for the carrying out of works. . . . *The Inspectors have therefore been instructed to permit matters to be arranged between tenant and owner* when possible and it was on this account that the original delay arose.

Our purpose in reverting to the tragic affair is once more to direct the attention of the ratepayers of Leeds to the shameless manner in which, upon its own showing, their City Council has compromised its position as the Sanitary Authority for the area under its control. Further communications which have passed between Mr. Simpson and the Town Clerk make it abundantly clear that the postponement of urgent sanitary works upon his premises was directly due to a "respect of persons" which should have no place in the calculations of any responsible public body. In view of this cynical admission, we hardly know what to say of the Council's latest proposal to offer Mr. Simpson a trivial monetary solatium for the bereavement and loss which he has sustained. We need hardly say that he will accept no such sop as the price of silence, but will strenuously press for that full public inquiry which the situation demands.

Over 5,000 Prizes awarded weekly. "Bullets" Record Offer. See page 28.

HOW WOOLLEYS SHEARED THE SHEEP.

SIREN SONGS OF EL DORADO.

Attractive advertisemen s of remunerative clerical posts in South Africa have recently attained considerable prominence in the provincial press. For the most part, these announcements purport to emanate from "Woolleys," a firm describing themselves as "Colonial and Foreign Agents, Gomshall, London," and claiming to possess branch agencies at Calcutta, Cape Town, Toronto, and Buenos Ayres. It is a little strange that a firm enjoying close connection with these overseas capitals should hide its central activities in the seclusion of "Gomshall," the precise situation of which our researches have so far failed to discover, unless a hamlet of that name near Dorking is to be regarded as "London."

"Woolleys'" method of dealing with applications is apparently uniform and stereotyped. A mimeographed circular is sent to each applicant outlining the nature of the appointments offered, and detailing the terms upon which the agency will lend its assistance in negotiating engagements. It is explained that only under stress of an exceptional demand is advertising employed:—

> Our vacancies are only open to members, but at the present time we are rather short of experienced clerks and book-keepers. Hence our advertisement. Our membership fee is quite nominal, viz., 2s., which entitles you to our Monthly Lists of vacant situations, also names of Firms requiring same. You may then, if you wish, apply direct.

If the assistance of the agency is more directly invoked, a commission of 10 per cent. on the first month's salary will become payable. It is clear, however, that "the smallest contributions are thankfully received," and we can well imagine that the aggregate of membership fees is large.

A Sheffield correspondent, attracted by an advertisement in a local newspaper and by the glittering prospect of "salaries ranging from £250 to £450," placed himself in communication with "Woolleys." He intimated to the firm that he had already had experience of commercial life in South Africa, and had there witnessed intense local competition for posts at far lower salaries than those now suggested. He desired further particulars. The firm's reply showed no abatement of their original pretensions:

> We have, from time to time, vacancies for all the business districts of South Africa—Durban, Johannesburg, Natal, Capetown, etc.

And again:—

> With regard to your remarks that vacancies are soon filled by men on the spot, perhaps so, but we can assure you that we are in a position to find berths for about 200 applicants each year with responsible firms for S. Africa alone.

"Perhaps so," but no evidence was furnished, and no further particulars deigned. The registration fee must first be paid.

An air of respectability was lent to this somewhat illiterate epistle by the announcement: "Bankers: Capital and Counties." Our correspondent inquired at the Head Office of the Capital and Counties Bank, as to the standing and repute of "Woolleys." He was informed that nothing was known of them there, but that their account might be with a branch office. He thereupon wrote to the firm desiring information upon this and other pertinent points. Just as we are going to press, we learn that the letter has been reutrned by the Postal authorities, marked "Gone—no address." *Verb sap.*

CRUELTY IN PETTICOAT LANE.

IS THERE NO REMEDY FOR SYSTEMATIC BARBARITY?

One of our readers tells us he passes through Wentworth Street, Whitechapel, almost daily, and witnesses blood-curdling cruelty to hundreds of fowls on sale there. "I suppose," he says, "after all these years there is no remedy? I think that a dealer, be he Jew or Christian, should not be allowed to carry about a dozen fowls head downwards, by the simple method of gripping them by one leg per fowl. It is barbarous. The poor creatures are obviously in great pain." Where is the local Inspector of the R.S.P.C.A.? And what is he doing with our recent subscription?

A POST-MORTEM MYSTERY.

SECURING DISSECTIONS AT LIVERPOOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.

The scandal of unauthorised post-mortem examinations in public hospitals is one to which we have more than once directed attention. Our revelations in the case of the London Hospital excited acute controversy, and quite recently we returned to the attack apropos of the astounding number of autopsies said to have been conducted last year at the Camberwell Poor Law Infirmary. Our original contention that in certain institutions post-mortems are performed upon the slightest pretext and without a vestige of legal sanction, is amply confirmed by further evidence now in our possession. A painful case was lately brought to our notice by a Liverpool correspondent, whose thirteen-year-old boy recently died in the Royal Infirmary in that city, from the effects of meningitis. It is interesting and perhaps not irrelevant to note that the institution in question adjoins the Medical School of the Liverpool University, in connection with which a serious shortage of subjects for students' experiments was recently lamented in the local press.

Our correspondent was present at the hospital at the time of his son's death, and was requested to call the following morning for the needful registration certificate. The child's illness had rapidly reached a fatal culmination, but in view of its nature and general incidents it was not apparently thought necessary to report the case to the Coroner for investigation. Calling next day, however, the unhappy father was persistently pestered to allow an examination of the child's brain by the surgical staff of the hospital. To this course he vehemently objected, and no amount of persuasion served to shake his opposition to the proposal. Of the cause of the boy's death he was perfectly satisfied, and in the absence of an inquest and a direct mandate from the Coroner, he declined to sanction any experiments. We are reluctant to accept his statement that his refusal to accede to their proposals was met with bullying and intimidation on the part of some of the staff of the Infirmary. Equally unsavoury is the suggestion that an officer attached to the local Coroner's Court was induced to exert pressure upon the father to reconsider his very natural and proper decision. We fear, however, that it is impossible to resist the conclusion that the threat of a "Coroner's Order" was most unscrupulously employed. The upshot of the interview was that the certificate of death was temporarily withheld. The father left the Hospital a prey to the worst misgivings.

Exactly what happened afterwards it is difficult to conjecture. Communication with the private doctor who had attended the lad at his home was apparently established, but the father assures us that neither directly nor indirectly did he waive his embargo upon the proposed autopsy. His wishes, however, seem to have been shamefully ignored. A *post-mortem* examination of the child's brain was undertaken, and the parents were in due course notified of its result. The medical men concerned now shelter themselves behind an alleged "Coroner's warrant," but a measure of grave suspicion attaches to the whole proceedings. It will be interesting to know if the autopsy followed a properly conducted inquest, and if so why the father of the child was not apprised of its time and place. If no such inquiry was in fact conducted, a *post-mortem* examination would seem to have been quite unnecessary.

A PEN FOR POETS.

GRATEFUL READER'S GLOWING RHYME.

A Stamford Hill reader thus acknowledges the receipt of a JOHN BULL fountain pen:—

> Oh, what a beautiful pen,
> How smoothly it does run;
> It serves me better by far
> Than my half-guinea one,
> I really can't understand
> How I missed the chance so long,
> When women and men
> Can possess such a pen
> At a cost which is but a mere song.

A pen that can inspire such poesy is indeed a jewel. For coupon and particulars see p. iii. of cover.

£500 (Five Hundred Pounds) Offered and Won every week for Two or Three words.

The Deathless Poems and Prose of the World's Greatest Writer of Historical Romance.

28-VOLUME

FINE ART SCOTT

Thrilling Tales of Many Ages and Countries

The finest mental refreshment for every member of the family — history made fascinating for the young—tales of love and chivalry for every age of life.

Poetry that Charms all ages.

About 12,000 Pages—800 Delightful Pictures—28 Beautiful Photogravures.

HERE in these 28 volumes are years of delight and enjoyment for you and your family, your children and your children's children. It is the most magnificent edition of Sir Walter Scott ever published, an edition of which

The great granddaughter of Sir Walter Scott,
Mrs. M. M. Maxwell Scott of Abbotsford, wrote—

"Your beautiful edition of Sir Walter's works! The illustrations are charming and I value the books very much themselves."

Just recall a few of the thrilling romances in which Scott called into glowing vibrant life the long-dead heroes and heroines whom we accompany with such delight through their lives and love.

Waverley. A tale of Bonnie Prince Charlie which took the world by storm. It created its author's reputation as a master of historical romance.

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The Heart of Midlothian. The description of the Porteous riots, and the pathetic story of Jeanie and Effie Deans will live as long as literature itself.

Ivanhoe. The most popular romance of love and chivalry ever penned. It stirs our blood as we hear the clash of arms in the Tournament of Coeur de Lion, and it excites our sympathy and draws our tears by the pathetic tale of the beautiful Jewess, Rebecca.

The Abbot. Mary Queen of Scots lives for ever in its pages and its fascinating heroine Catherine Seyton who frequently attires herself in hose and doublet, can only be compared to Rosalind herself.

Woodstock. The finest of all "Cavalier and Roundhead" romances. The picture of the old Cavalier whose daughter is wooed by a Parliamentarian is inimitable.

The Fair Maid of Perth. Scott at his best. The book in which the genius of Scott flamed up into an incandescent brilliance. A tale of the early, but always ill-fated Stuarts, and the tragic death by starvation of the Earl of Rothesay, the heir to the Scottish throne.

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IN the Fine Art Scott, you have all the novels in 25 beautiful volumes—you have two volumes of poems, in which the ring of Scott's cadences is like the rattle of a sword in its scabbard—and you have in yet another volume and in handy form that great biographical classic, "Lockhart's Life of Scott," that opens the door to an understanding of a hero and increases our admiration of one of the world's geniuses.

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THE pictures in the Fine Art Scott are supreme—unequalled. Never before has such a galaxy of talent deriving its inspiration from the pages of Scott been gathered within the boards of one edition of the master's works. And the result is such that there is little fear of any succeeding edition eclipsing this one in pictorial excellence. There are nearly 800 illustrations by famous artists reproduced in beautiful half-tone, and there are 28 beautiful hand-printed photogravures.

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Please send me full particulars and subscription terms of the Fine Art Scott in twenty-eight volumes, including the special oak Bookcase, which is presented to prompt subscribers without extra charge.

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J.B.3

OCCUPATION .....

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

We question if it's any use
For Redmond—knife concealed—
To try to tempt the Ulster goose
Its liberty to yield.

Now, Ali Baba Asquith at
The treasure cave arrives;
He speaks the word: but after that?
We can't say for our lives.

Pledged to do one good turn a day,
Who can the Scouts condemn
If they for once asks us to pay
And do a turn to them?

Although the Pope the Tango bans,
He mitigates the blow
By blessing a Venetian dance
Known as the Fulano.

The ban emerges from the scrum,
And Winston, all alert,
Backed by the City, makes things hum
And leaves George in the dirt.

Thrice lucky dog! Free as the air,
Not cooped and chained at shows
Like those poor canines, who declare
Their woes with loud bow-wows!

NULL AND VOID.

FRIENDLY SOCIETY MEMBERS, NOTE!

It is a common complaint with members of certain Friendly and Industrial Societies that the rules by which they are governed are amended from time to time, frequently to their detriment, without that full publicity which is the sole safeguard for the legitimate interests of all concerned. In this connection a case recently disposed of in the Court of Session at Edinburgh is of more than passing interest to friendly society members, who may have been aggrieved by the summary re-modelling of the "laws" by which they have consented to be ruled. A member of the City of Glasgow Friendly Society asked the Court to declare that an emendation of the rules recently effected by a body of delegates was illegal and of no effect, inasmuch as the meeting at which the rules were altered had not been called in the manner prescribed by the society's constitution.

The application afforded a wholesome indication that the members of the City of Glasgow Society, or some of them at least, are alive to the peril of unauthorised departures from precedent and established rule in vital matters of administration. The soundness of their contention was evidenced by the fact that the Lord Ordinary had no hesitation in granting the declaration asked for. The Board of Management of the Society will doubtless proceed in future with a closer regard to regulations framed in the interests of members as a whole—especially as the costs were ordered to be defrayed by them.

THE MONEY BOOM.

They tell me City folk are glad,
That stocks and shares are simply booming,
The prices all go up like mad,
And business men are looking blooming;
But what is all this news to us
Who sell no stock, not having any?
Why does the City make a fuss?—
Four farthings still are but one penny!

Gilt-edged securities are high,
The market cuts a giddy caper,
Now is the time to sell or buy
What yesterday was but waste-paper;
I read of other men's good luck,
To wish them joy I'm more than willing,
But in the same old rut I'm stuck—
My twelve pence only make one shilling!

So let the market prices leap
And mount with no signs of abating,
'Twill not disturb me in my sleep,
I do not fear their fluctuating;
Whatever City men may do
The bottom truth in this is found—
For simple folk like me and you
Just twenty shillings make one pound!

RICARDO.

Great New Football Contest. £1,750 this time. See page 31.

THE WAY TO £1,000 A YEAR.

£1,000 a year.

Only a small minority of the people of this country earn such an income at the present time.

Yet, for all that, there is no reason why you should not join the class of the "Thousand-Pounders"—provided you follow the right lines. Follow the right lines and you can increase your earning power 100, 200, 300 per cent. You may even succeed in reaching the £1,000 a year earning standard. And the task is not so difficult as perhaps you think.

Carnegie's "Foot Ahead."

Carnegie once said that there is "one advantage in the business career over most professions—more likelihood of millionairedom." He speaks as one who knows. He has reached the goal. And how has he done it? "In the race of life," he says, "a foot ahead wins the race; a pin turns the scale." A foot is not a long distance, but it means the difference between Success and Failure. The plan described on this page helps you to get ahead and to earn more money. It gives you a better start in the race. It gives you a lift onwards to £1,000 a year. And you can easily follow it. It is quite simple, as you will see from a remarkable book you can obtain to-day, gratis and post-free.

The Art of "Getting There."

Why do some people succeed in everything they undertake when others, apparently equally gifted, never get beyond a certain subordinate position? We all know of such cases. They occur in every business, trade, profession and occupation. One man gets right ahead. He passes older men, more experienced men, more brilliant men, better educated men, even men with greater influence. He goes right to the top of the tree. He secures the coveted position that carries with it Power and Influence and Big Money. He is the indispensable man. He tastes Fortune whilst he is still young enough to enjoy it. What is the power that gets him on and makes him successful?

How to Make More Money.

What this power is you can read in a just published book. What is more—this book shows you how to acquire this very same power yourself. A postcard will bring you a copy free. It is worth reading by every man or woman who wants to do better in life and to make money. It shows you how to make more money in a very short time—and this without trouble or expense.

The Finished Worker.

The man who succeeds is the man whose every effort is a finished effort. His work, whatever it is, whether salesmanship, or book-keeping, or office management, or clerical, or executive, has a finish to it, the finish of super-excellence. It is like the finish one sees in the rowing of a great oarsman, the man who pulls his stroke right through and uses every ounce of his strength to get the fullest result. It is the finish of the trained expert which differentiates him from the amateur. And it is the trained expert in business who makes the big money when the amateur worker only sees the little.

Waste Effort Eliminated.

The trained experts in business and the professions are the men and women who have mastered their minds as an expert pianist masters the pianoforte. Carefully and scientifically—as shown in this free book—they have developed their mental powers as an athlete develops his muscles. Their minds are perfectly co-ordinated machines over which they have absolute control. They know just what mental effort to put out to produce a certain result. This book puts you in just the same position. It shows you how to eliminate all waste effort from your mind just as the firstclass manager eliminates all waste time and work from the department under him. Thus you secure the fullest possible results from every effort you put forth. Thus you are enabled to do more, better, and better-paid work in less time and with less effort. You gain the foot ahead that wins the race.

How to Secure Super-Efficiency.

This super-efficiency of the mind is the result of scientific training just as the technique of the musician or the staying-power of the athlete is the result of training. What this training is and how you can follow it is explained in the book on Mind and Memory Training issued free to JOHN BULL readers by the Pelman School of the Mind.

When You See it in John Bull—

This wonderful system of training is followed by men and women of every profession, trade and occupation. The Editor of JOHN BULL heartily recommends it to his readers. Every year more and more Pelman-trained men and women are securing the leading and best paid positions in life. This course enables you to do the same. It is directed through the post by expert instructors. You follow it in your own time and leisure. It enables you to double and treble your money-earning powers and to banish Forgetfulness, Mind-Wandernig, Tactlessness, Indecision, lack of Self-Confidence, lack of Ideas, Nervelessness, Mental Flurry, and other faults that keep you down, that keep you under, and will continue to keep the most brilliant reader under unless he rids his mind of them—as he now can do—instantly and for ever.

Develops "Plus" Qualities.

Better still follows. Having rid the mind of such weaknesses this wonderful system builds up in your mind those splendid masterful qualities that make capable men and women. It greatly increases your Organising Ability—Self-Confidence—Concentration—Trained Observation—Rapid Perception—Comprehensive Mental Grasp—Driving Force—Initiative—Originality and Personal Magnetism. It gives you a splendid Never-Forgetting Memory and enables you to learn foreign languages in from one-third to one-half the usual time. It enables you to plan better for the future, to see the opportunities that are coming to you and to seize them as and when they arrive. It develops the power of originating those new "ideas," which are worth so much money in every occupation. It makes you a better salesman, a more efficient worker, a more capable manager, and business man, and a skilful persuasive debater. Follow this plan and you cannot help succeeding. It literally forces you to become observant, alive, keen and wide awake. In fact, it increases your powers in every direction and enables you to overcome all difficulties and to rise above those who have never trained their minds by this marvellous profit-increasing plan which you can read all about to-day—Free.

A Visit to Paris and the Continent Free.

You are able to secure special advantages by sending for this information to-day. First, you are enabled to receive the complete Pelman Course of Mind and Memory Training at a great reduction in the usual fee, and, second, by taking the Course this year you are entitled to share in a great Free Foreign Travel Opportunity given to those who wish to increase their efficiency by a personal knowledge of Foreign Countries, languages, and peoples. This is an opportunity to secure a Free Tour to Paris, Brussels, Berlin and other Continental cities—or even a Grand Free Tour Round the World. These Tours, which have been granted by the Pelman School at a cost of £1,000, will only be awarded to those who take the Pelman Course this year. The Chairmanship of the Committee for awarding these Tours has been accepted by Mr. T. P. O'Connor.

What a Postcard Will Bring You.

Here is an opportunity not to be lost. Send postcard to-day (or call) to the Secretary, The Pelman School of the Mind, 15, Wenham House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C., and by return you will receive:—(1) A copy of the Pelman Mind and Memory Training Book (with particulars of special reduced fees); and (2) a copy of the book describing the Free Tours to the Continent and Round the World, only open to those who take the Pelman Course. Write or call for these books to-day. They cost you nothing. They show you how to make more money, and will put you on the straight road to a large and increasing income—may be to £1,000 a year or even more. [*Advt.*

Remarkable Double Money-Making Offer on This Page.

OVERDOING IT IN ULSTER.

CIVIL WAR OR FASHIONABLE FUNCTION?

If at times the Ulster Movement reminds one of the famous theatrical combination of Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan, some of its leaders and supporters have only themselves to blame. Recently, for instance, we had half a lineal foot of scare headlines in the *Mail* as thus: "The Wives of Ulster. Rally for the Struggle . . . Staff of Women Motor-Cyclists Rush to Train as Nurses. Lady Londonderry's Call." Now we have Lord Londonderry writing to inform our august contemporary that the headmaster of a school in Durham, a Mr. Bramwell, offers "in case of serious trouble in Ireland to receive into this school, free of charge, two or more boys, sons of officers fighting for the loyalists of Ulster, and if necessary to look after them, free of charge, during the holidays." Precedent is apt to follow precedent, and presently no doubt Lipton will be writing to Lord Londonderry offering to supply half-a-pound of his renowned 1s. 4d. tea, Knight a bar of his sublime "Primrose" soap, and Beecham one box of his illustrious pills in order to relieve the financial strain on the Ulster commissariat in fulfilment of their patriotic duty.

The impressiveness of the Ulster movement is being spoiled by the fact that some of the women in aristocratic relation with it are evidently regarding it as a sort of Society function; they are entering into it with the spirit which characterises their organisation of a fancy dress ball, or a charity matinée; while some of the men hanging on the fringe of it are turning the limelight on themselves for their own vainglory. Never were preparations for martial revolt in a nation so much advertised. Never did an army in the field welcome the journalistic headliner and the camp newsman with such open arms. Nothing is secret. Apparently the executive cannot buy a rifle or a tin of corned beef without some fire-eating general or cackling politician writing to the papers or mounting a public platform to declare he has had a hand in it, glories in the deed, and the Government can have his blood for it if they want to. Herein, it may be, is one of the reasons why, notwithstanding the limelight and the drum, the sounding brass and tinkling cymbal, the trumpets also and shawms, the thunder of the captains and the shouting, the British public have remained almost unmoved at this spectacle of Ulster in arms. It is one thing for everybody to be doing it; it is another for everybody to be overdoing it. Business is business, and not farce or comic opera.

A SCATHING SPEECH.

THE FIGHT AGAINST SERFDOM.

From all quarters, protests are raining in upon the Home Office in respect of the serf labour of industrial schoolboys upon Welsh farms. At the last sitting of the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions, under the chairmanship of Mr. Willis Bund, Alfred Howard, a twenty-year-old labourer, admitted the theft of an overcoat and other articles of trifling value. It transpired that Howard was an ex-industrial school inmate, hailing from a farm in the wilds of Wales, a fact which drew from the learned Chairman an emphatic and noteworthy remonstrance. Tracing the prisoner's unhappy career, he said:—

> The unfortunate boys were certainly very often very badly treated indeed. They were sent into the hills where the farmers and the servants practically knew no English. They were not well fed, and were very hardworked, and everybody's hand was against them. He had had to complain on several occasions of the way in which boys had been treated. They ran away and committed offences.

In the face of this sympathetic utterance, we regret that the Chairman should have thought it necessary to send the hapless lad to prison for 12 months. The stiffness of the sentence may, however, serve to acquit him of any suspicion of mawkish sentimentality. His weighty words remain on record as a dignified judicial protest against an abuse which outrages every instinct of justice. We look to Mr. Willis Bund and to other magistrates who have expressed themselves in a similar sense, to take active steps towards the abolition of a system whose utter viciousness becomes daily more apparent.

EXTORTIONERS, LTD.

ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD.

"The Crown Emporium, Limited," of Ludgate Hill and Oxford Street, whose shabby tricks and shoddy trade we have frequently exposed, are "at it" again in earnest. Under the imposing *alias* of the London Goldsmiths' Company, they seem to find little difficulty in disposing of their glittering wares at prices which are out of all proportion to their value, and many confiding customers have suffered grievous disappointment on learning the brutal truth in regard to their cherished "bargains." An Ilford reader supplies us with particulars of a case which may well serve as a warning to any who may be tempted by the glint and flash of the Company's sparkling gems.

Friends of our correspondent purchased from the Oxford Street Emporium a pendant, a necklet and a bracelet, each rich in golden fittings and glittering with jewels. The price of the three articles was £4 7s. 6d., and the Company's receipt for this sum has been forwarded for our inspection. Shortly after the purchase, one of the ornaments got slightly out of gear and was taken to a working jeweller for repair. A hint from the tradesman that it would be hardly worth while to spend money on the article, raised uneasy doubts as to the soundness of the "bargain," and our correspondent, whose advice was sought, suggested the advisability of an independent valuation by a goldsmith of repute. The aid of a well-known firm of jewel experts was accordingly requisitioned. It should be stated that the £4 7s. 6d. paid for the goods was made up as follows:—

Bracelet	—	—	£2 5 0
Pendant ..	—	—	1 15 0
Necklet ..	..	..	0 7 6

Here is the report of the valuer, who had no inkling of the price paid for the gems:—

> In reference to the bracelet, pendant and necklet you sent me for inspection, you do not state in your letter what they cost. I should consider 17s. 6d. to be a fair retail price for the flexible bracelet set with *imitation amethysts*, 12s. 6d. for the amethyst and pearl pendant, and 5*l*., *or at the outside* 1*l*., *for the metal necklet*, and although we do not stock this class of property, we should have no difficulty in supplying you with them at the prices stated. We should not care to purchase these articles, and I am, therefore, returning same to you.

The firm whose skilled opinion is thus frankly stated is one of the best known in London, and its competence and *bona fides* are alike beyond suspicion. It will be seen that the total value set upon the goods is £1 11s. as against the £4 7s. 6d. charged by the London Goldsmiths' Company. On an impartial valuation, the unfortunate purchasers were robbed of £2 16s. 6d. on the deal. This revelation, coupled with our earlier disclosures, should suffice to warn our readers against all dealings with the London Goldsmiths' Company or the Crown Emporium, Limited, who are apparently the Jekyll and Hyde of a peculiarly flash imposture. By-the-way, we note that the firm uses the arms and title of the ex-King of Portugal as the bait for its glistening hooks.

THE PENALTIES OF FAME.

To-day the front page of the *Mirror*
Flashes with a Beauty's face;
To-morrow those patrician features
Wrap an oily "two" of plaice.
To-day great Ministers are pictured,
For all readers to admire;
To-morrow, Grey and Winston shrivel
'Neath the wood that lights the fire.

To-day a star of West-End Drama,
Occupies the central plate;
To-morrow, doomed to hug a bloater,
Is the leading lady's fate.
To-day a bride of regal beauty,
Makes a picture rich, and rare;
To-morrow she is cut in crackers
For a slavey's greasy hair.

Scottish Readers can now compete in our Football Contests.

£500 for 50 WORDS.

OATINE COMPETITION

2nd GREAT WORD-MAKING

1,000 CASH PRIZES.

1st Prize	-	-	-	£100
2nd ,,	-	-	-	£50
3rd ,,	-	-	-	£25
4th ,,	-	-	-	£10
5th ,,	-	-	-	£5
50 Prizes of	-	-		£1
100 ,, ,,	-	-		10s.
845 ,, ,,	-	-		5s.

Closing Date, Feb. 24

In this competition it is only necessary to make FIFTY WORDS, and the prizes will be awarded to those competitors who send in lists of the 50 longest words that can be made from the 19 letters contained in the words

OATINE SHAMPOO POWDER

For example the following suggest themselves :—

Wonder—Shipmate—Motion.

This is a simple, pleasurable competition, not involving any arduous work or hunting through voluminous dictionaries. Only fifty words have to be made, and the dictionaries before the judges have been purposely selected as being neither voluminous nor expensive, and for the further reason that one of them is to be found in almost every household.

Each list of words must be accompanied by the coupon to be found in every 1s. box of seven Oatine Shampoo Powders. The coupon referred to gives the full list of conditions to be observed by competitors and also gives the names of the dictionaries which will be before the examiners, and only words to be found therein will be accepted.

No one in the employment of, or in any way connected with, The Oatine Company, will be allowed to compete.

The following gentlemen have agreed to act as a committee and will award the prizes, thus ensuring an absolutely independent and impartial decision for all competitors, and the decision of this committee is final :—

LOUIS KAUFMAN, Esq., General Manager "TRUTH." H. CARGILL, Esq., Advertisement Manager "JOHN BULL."
J. DODDS, Esq., Advertisement Manager "DAILY SKETCH."

OATINE SHAMPOO POWDERS (7 packets in a box, 1s., sold by all Chemists) in Two Varieties.

For DRY HAIR in Red Packets. For GREASY HAIR in Green Packets.

There is a great difference in people's hair, some having too much oil, and some hair which is very dry. The same shampoo will not suit both. It will remove oil that cannot be spared from the dry hair, making it brittle, harsh, and difficult to do up after washing. With oily hair, on the contrary, it will not remove the excess of oil, sometimes clogging and matting the hair yet further.

Recognising these conditions, The Oatine Company have brought out two varieties of Shampoo Powder. Think under which class your hair comes, and order the shampoo designed to suit your particular case. It will be a revelation to you, the feeling of hair and scalp cleanliness, the quick improvement in the appearance of your hair, and the ease with which it can be done up immediately after washing.

WHICH FOR YOU?

MAKE YOUR PURCHASE EARLY,

in order to obtain the coupon referred to above, as it gives full particulars and rules of the competition together with the names of the dictionaries before the judges, so that before sending in your list you will be sure that all words made are admissible. This coupon should be carefully read before you begin compiling your list of words, and when buying, be sure to ask for the special kind of Shampoo Powder to suit your particular requirements.

Send in your list as soon as it is completed, in order to facilitate the labour of the judges. All entries, however, must be received by Tuesday, February 24th. The list of prizewinners will be published in *the Daily Sketch* of March 18th.

IF YOUR CHEMIST CANNOT SUPPLY YOU, SEND P.O. FOR ONE SHILLING DIRECT TO US, AND YOUR ORDER WILL BE DISPATCHED BY RETURN OF POST.

THE OATINE CO., 689, Oatine Buildings, LONDON, S.E.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE —"

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of human derelicts whose cases, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

CCLXXXIX.—WORRIED PARENTS.

In the provinces live a married couple, both considerably under 50 years of age, but possessing a family of ten children, all at home. There are five boys and five girls, whose ages range from 21 years to 12 months. They live in the country, the father being a traveller out of employment. He bears an excellent character, but has fallen on evil times. His two eldest children are out earning wages, and together bring in to the common fund 12s. a week. Another is ready and eager to go to work, but he has neither boots nor clothes. He is a well-educated lad, and his schoolmaster promises to get him a situation as soon as he is able to take it. Most of the home has been sold up for food, but through our intervention the landlord has not evicted them. The father is not a waster. He hopes to get work again in the course of a few days. In the meantime, his poor wife is almost distracted. We leave the case in our readers' hands. The lad who requires clothes before he can go to work is 15 years of age, but small for his years. Perhaps some of our readers can help him to procure an outfit, while monetary donations for the family, generally, will be gratefully appreciated.

CCXC.—A CANCER VICTIM'S PLEA.

Lying in a London hospital, dying from cancer of the throat, is the father of three young children. His wife earns a few shillings a week by making buttonholes in tailors' garments, but in the course of a very short time she will give birth to another child, when, though the number of mouths will be increased, her poor earnings will, of course, stop. The two rooms the family occupy at a rental of 5s. weekly are almost devoid of furniture, and three weeks' rent is in arrear. The unfortunate man awaiting his doom is suffering double agony from the crushing knowledge that his wife and family are practically starving. Of course, there is the workhouse to "welcome" them, but this establishment both husband and wife loathe. It would almost seem one of those hopeless cases where rendering a little help is only prolonging the agony, but we feel we must do our best to ease the poor man's dying pangs. There is a prospect that local sympathy may be effectively aroused on behalf of these poor people, but, meanwhile, who will help us to succour the woman so soon to become mother and widow?

CCXCI.—WHITE SCOURGE VICTIM.

Can any of our readers give the subject of this paragraph some light work? He is a young married man without family, and his character will bear the strictest investigation. For about 12 months he has been suffering from consumption, in consequence of which he was compelled to leave his work as a carrier and enter a sanatorium. After a rest of ten weeks he felt much better, and his old employer was only too glad to find him work again. He managed to carry out his duties for a couple of weeks, when hæmorrhage once more set in and he was compelled to give the job up. The medical officer who has been attending him says that he is quite competent to do work of light character, and it is in the hope of finding him this that we now appeal. The man lives in London, but would be quite prepared to move if required. Although he and his wife occupy one room only, they are in arrears with their rent, and are financially in a very bad way indeed.

A FIGHT FOR SIGHT.

A Northumberland man of 26, wrote on January 13th as follows:—

> I am blind, and have been so for the past 14 years. My father is a miner, and cannot afford to send me to a specialist. If I can only get proper treatment I have reason to believe I may recover my sight. Can you help me?

He went on to say that he could discriminate between night and day, and that a local practitioner had given him some hope, and he was therefore desperately anxious to come to London to consult an experienced oculist. We placed the matter before the authorities of the Royal Eye Hospital. The Resident Medical Officer manifested a kindly interest in the man, and said that if we would pay the expenses to London he should be thoroughly examined, and if it was found to be a case in which there was the slightest prospect of a cure, he should be admitted into the hospital at once and everything possible done for him. Accordingly we made arrangements for the patient to come to London, accompanied by his mother. Upon arrival a thorough examination of the blind man took place at the hospital. Alas, for the poor fellow's fond hopes! We are sorry to say that the distinguished oculist had to tell him that, the optic nerve being destroyed, it was absolutely impossible that he would ever see again. So, sorrowfully, but deeply thankful for the efforts made on their behalf, mother and son returned to their village home. There is one brighter side even to this sorrowful story—the poor man may now settle down with a more tranquil mind—for he will no longer torment himself (as he has been doing for years) with the thought that, were he able to find a few pounds, the blessing of sight would be restored to him.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have received the following, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CCLXXXIII.—W. E. B., 5s.; M. S., 2s. 6d.

CCLXXXIV.—"Ventmoor," 5s.

CCLXXXV.—D. W. G., 6d.; "Anonymous," 1s.; C. H. H., £1; "Quietly," 2s. 6d.; E. M. H., 3d.; J. W., 2s.; "Addy," 1s.; "Nap," 1s.; H. S., 2s. 6d.; "Good Health," 2s. 6d.; J. C., 2s. 6d.; J. S., 2s.; "Bass Roy," 6d.; "Chiswick," 1s.; B. B, 1s.; H. S., 4s.; "Ealing Reader," 1s.; F. W., 6d.; R T. G., 6d.; B. M., 6d.; "A Friend," 1s. 6d.; Mrs. E. H., 6d.; H. J. H., 1s.; F. A. M. D., 2s. 6d.; D. E., 2s.; M. E. G., 10s.; A. J., 1s.

CCLXXXVI.—"Chiswick," 1s.; "Cestrian," 5s.; J. S., 2s.; "Glanville," 3s.

CCLXXXVII.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; "Prudential Agent," 2s. 6d.; "L," 2s. 6d.; A. J. S., 2s. 6d.; H. M. H., 1s.; "A Swiss Friend," 2s.; "Tryer" (Paisley), 2s.; "No. 60," 6d.; S. B., 2s. 6d.; "Glanville," 2s.

CCLXXXVIII.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; "Tom," 2s.; "Reader," 1s. 6d.; J. H. N., 2s. 6d.; "Bramley," 1s.; "New Ark," 2s.; "Little Johnnie," 8s.; M. R., 2s. 6d.; H. G., 6d. "A New Year Gift," 1s. 6d.; J. A. H., 1s.; Miss M. M., 6d.; "Devon," 1s.; A. H. M., 6d.; A. P. (Milano), 1s. 6d.; B. H., 6d.; J. C. S., 1s. 6d.

We have divided £10 from the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund between CCLXXXVII. and CCLXXXVIII.

We have also apportioned £10 from the JOHN BULL Football Cup Sweepstake Charity Fund as follows:—£3 to the poor woman mentioned in our last issue under the heading of "On the Strength"; £6 to the blind man referred to above under the title of "A Fight for Sight"; and £1 to the subject of the paragraph in our last issue under the heading of "Goblin of Galleywood."

Mr. G. F. S. Hill, the winner of the £500 prize in our 65th "Bullets" Competition, has kindly forwarded us £5, which we have divided between Nos. CCLXXVI. and CCLXXXVI.

£1,000 Football Prize Won. **List of Winners on page 5.**

MARVELLOUS DEVELOPMENT IN BRITISH MOTOR INDUSTRY.

REMARKABLE GROWTH OF SALES OF AUSTIN MOTORS, WHICH IN SIX YEARS HAVE REACHED A VOLUME FIVE TIMES AS GREAT AS IN 1907.

One of the most striking examples of the rapid growth of concerns which are producing high-grade motor-cars to meet the constantly increasing demand in all parts of the world is the Austin Motor Car Company. The turnover of the company has increased from about £85,000 in 1907 to £425,641 in 1913, and so great is the market which the company has developed that its works, even with constant enlargements and additions, have not been able to cope with it fully.

This growth has been so remarkable that it is worth while to state the actual figures of the nett turnover after deducting commission on sales:—

Dec., 1905. to Oct. 31,	1906	£4,771
Year ended Oct. 31,	1907	84,930
11 months ended Sept. 30,	1908	119,744
Year ended Sept. 30,	1909	169,821
" " "	1910	209,048
" " "	1911	276,195
" " "	1912	354,209
" " "	1913	425,641

The growth of the company's business is due wholly to the merits of the car and the satisfaction it has given to its purchasers, whose example and recommendation have enabled the "Austin" to increase its sales steadily in the face of the competition of cars which are heavily advertised. In the first three weeks of the current financial year orders were received for nearly twice as many cars as in the corresponding period of last year; to be precise, an increase of over 99 per cent.

The Austin Motor Company, Limited, which up to the present has been carried on as a private limited company, and which has invested a large part of its profits from year to year in increasing its manufacturing facilities, now finds that it has proved a market much larger than it can cope with, with the present capital at its command.

To provide the additional capital for extensions a new company, The Austin Motor Co. (1914), Limited, has been formed, which will acquire as from September 30, 1913, the whole of the business of the private limited company. The authorised capital of the new company is £250,000 in 7 per cent. Cumulative Preference shares and £400,000 in Ordinary shares.

Mr. Herbert Austin, Mr. Harvey du Cros, junr., and Major Frank Kayser, the governing directors of the original company, are directors of the new company with Messrs. H. Marks and Alderman Albert Ball, J.P.

THE AUSTIN WORKS.

Few motor manufacturing companies have works as well equipped as those of the Austin Company at Longbridge, Birmingham, seven miles from the centre of the city. The works occupy a freehold site of more than 10 acres, and the company has recently purchased the freehold of 118 acres adjoining for the testing track and for extensions of the works.

A new block of offices abutting on the roadway has recently been added to the existing buildings.

The machine shops have been extended and the added space has provided room for new machinery and has relieved the congestion in the older shops by giving more room between machines for the men and material.

The inspection department has been given more commodious quarters, and the tool department has been enlarged.

In one huge shop having an area of 33,000 square feet there are arranged in groups the frame section, the spring and axle section, and the numerous benches at which the gear-boxes, rear axles, and smaller units are fitted together ready to be placed on the chassis.

The arrangement of the shop is such that all work passes from one section to the next with a minimum of trouble, an overhead trolley system being installed for the transport of the larger units. Along one side of the building are the tinsmith shops and coppersmith shops, and on the opposite side of the same, and entirely separated from the rest of the shop, is the new engine-testing department, in which many important improvements have been made.

Electrical drive is to be substituted for the present mechanical drive of the factory plant, and when the work-rooms are cleared of the great number of belts there will be an important gain in light, in the efficiency of work, and in transferring and packing materials.

A new power-house has been constructed and two gas engines of 250 h.p. each have been installed, which are directly coupled to three-phase alternators of 175 K.W.A., which provide the current for driving twenty 20 h.p. motors for various machine sections. Smaller motors are used for isolated sections, and certain machines are driven by independent motors. Space has been provided in the new power-house for further plant.

In addition to these new buildings plans have been passed for an extension of similar size on the other side of the factory, where the coach-building department is situated.

A new testing track will be built having a circuit of one mile, including a straight kilometre and a test hill. When this is completed the facilities for accurate testing will be ideal.

The Austin cars are of all standard types, and all the bodies are made in the company's shops. Particular attention is now being paid to the manufacture of ambulances, commercial vehicles, marine engines, and petrol-driven electric lighting plants.

Last September, for the second time, the British International Trophy, raced for at Cowes, was won again by Maple Leaf IV., engined by Austin motors. Not only did she go through the series without a falter, and without the slightest trouble of any kind, but put up a record for speed never before equalled, beating the world's fastest and best boats without being pressed.

Among the most important show-rooms of the firm are Holland's, the carriage builders, old premises in Oxford Street, where Austin clients have a club-room and smoking-room, and their chauffeurs are also provided with a club-room. They have also depots at Manchester, Norwich, Paris, and Madrid.

Among the purchasers of Austin pleasure cars have been H.I.H. the Grand Duke Gavril Konstantinovitch, H.I.H. the Grand Duchess Marie Pavlovna, H.H. the Rajah Kishori Lall Goswami, H.E. Princess Colonna, Marquis Del Merito, the Foreign Minister, Madrid; the Minister of the Interior, Madrid; the Minister of Public Instruction, Madrid; the Minister of Justice, Madrid; His Grace the Duke of Portland, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O.; His Grace the Duke of Leeds; the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, P.C., G.C.V.O., C.B.; the Hon. the Earl of Crewe, K.G., P.C.; the Right Hon. the Earl of Lonsdale; the Right Hon. the Earl of Carlisle; the Right Hon. the Marquis of Anglesey; the Right Hon. Viscount Combermere; the Right Hon. Viscount Colville; the Right Hon. Lord Alverstone, P.C., G.C.M.G., LL.D.; the Right Hon. Lord Pirrie, P.C., K.P.; the Right Hon. Lord Penrhyn; the Right Hon. Lord Weardale; the Right Hon. Lord Hindlip; the Right Hon. Lord Crawshaw; Baroness Kinloss; Viscountess Peel, the Marchioness of Tweeddale, the Right Rev. Lord Bishop of Durham, Sir Joseph Beecham.

Austin Ambulances are used by the Metropolitan Asylums Board, City of Birmingham Health Department, City of Manchester Health Department, Salford Guardians, Bolton Guardians, Bolton Fire Brigade, Belfast City Corporation, Dundee Town Council, St. John's Ambulance Association, etc., etc.

A full prospectus was published in Tuesday's daily papers, offering 250,000 £1 Seven per Cent. Preference shares. Copies, with application form, are obtainable from the Bankers, THE LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED. Head Office: 5, Threadneedle Street, E.C.; New Street, Birmingham, and other branches; the Solicitors: JOHN B. AND F. PURCHASE, 14, Regent Street, London, S.W., RYLAND MARTINEAU AND CO., 7, Cannon Street, Birmingham, GRUNDY, KERSHAW, SAMSON AND CO., 6, Austin Friars, E.C. (For the Company); the Auditors: CARTER AND CO., Chartered Accountants, 33, Waterloo Street, Birmingham; the Brokers, MYERS AND CO., 6, Throgmorton Street, London, E.C., GRIFFITHS AND LAMB, 104 and 106, Colmore Row, Birmingham; F. W. BENTLEY AND CO., Leeds and Huddersfield; HILLMAN AND WOODCOCK, 45, Nicholas Street, Bristol; and the Secretary, at the Registered Office, G. A. NEWMAN, Longbridge Works, Northfield, Birmingham. [*Advt.*

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Congenial Work: Soon Mastered. Small Cost: Large Profits.

If you have any aptitude for Drawing, it will pay you to train your talent. You can acquire proficiency in a few months in your spare time by taking the P.C.C. Course of Practical Training by post, personally conducted by Mr. C. Wroughton Smith, the famous Pictorial Sign Artist and Lettering Expert.

25s. Outfit Free

Print the word "LETTERING" (one inch capitals) and send it with your name and address for free criticism by Mr. Wroughton Smith, and particulars of the above special offer, address—

The Secretary,
PRACTICAL CORRESPONDENCE COLLEGE,
122 Thanet House, STRAND, W.C.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

[This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.]

To the Hon. Mr. Justice Darling, Royal Courts of Justice.

DEAR JUDGE,—Just a word with you in reference to that recent case of the Croydon schoolmaster, to whom the jury awarded a farthing damages in respect of my allegation that he is unfit for the position he occupies. Do you think it was quite the right thing to allow him the costs of the action? Just consider the admitted cruelties he had inflicted upon a delicate and helpless little child, placed under his care! A contemptuous verdict in such a case, in response to your legal direction that there had been a technical libel, surely was meant to convey the opinion of the jury as to the value of the plaintiff's character. I write in no carping spirit, regarding you, as I do, as the most brilliant Judge on the King's Bench, and knowing that there is none more sincerely desirous of doing justice between his Majesty's subjects. But I have more than once observed your failure to appreciate the true significance of that farthing as a measure of damage. Perhaps some day juries will be allowed to express an opinion on the subject of costs. With respectful greetings, and hoping some day to have the pleasure of basking once more in the perennial sunshine of your Court,

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. David Lloyd George, M.P., Insurance Expert, London.

DEAR DAVID,—Have you read the Regulations printed on the back of the latest National Health Insurance card? "Any insured person who is guilty of a breach of any of the Committee's rules," it is written, "is liable to a fine of two-and-six, or in case of repeated breaches five shillings, or to be suspended from medical benefit for a period not exceeding one year. These rules are liable to alteration, due notice of which will be given in the public press." This looks like being a very eventful provision; and in my mind's eye I cannot see the ten million insured persons rushing pell-mell and helter-skelter to purchase a ha'porth of *Daily Wail* every morning in order to ascertain the latest new rule intended to mulct them of half-a-crown, or five shillings if they do it again. Bless my life, man, flesh and blood can't stand it, and that's saying nothing about boot leather. I don't wish to interfere unduly with your prodigious philanthropy, but between you and me and the fourpence, do you think for a change you could frame a Rule which by any chance would do somebody a bit of good? If so, kindly mention it to me and I will advertise it free, gratis and for nothing.

JOHN BULL.

To H. Cosmo Bonsor, Esq., South Eastern and Chatham Railway Company.

SIR,—I observe that you lately delivered an important speech as Chairman of the Managing Committee of your Company, in which you saw fit to advert to the unhappy accident at Waterloo Junction Station which was recently the subject of official inquiry. Ascribing the mishap to "an unaccountable mistake" on the part of a signalman, you proceeded, in their absence, to read a homily to your lower grade employees upon the paramount importance of undeviating obedience to rule. With your sentiments in this regard I find no fault, though there is doubtless much to be said in extenuation of the occasional lapses of worn and jaded men. It was surely unfair, however, to concentrate upon this single aspect of accident risk with a view, as you distinctly implied, to the exoneration of the Railway Managements and of the responsible officials of the Board of Trade. With the memory of Aisgill still fresh in your mind, you must have known in your conscience that such a plea could not for a moment be honestly sustained. Such palpable "whitewashing" can deceive no intelligent mind, and I beg you to observe the common canons of fairness when next you broach this painful theme. To put it on the men is cowardly.

JOHN BULL.

To Sir William Ramsay, Scientist, London.

DEAR SIR WILLIAM,—I have nothing but admiration for your scientific erudition, and I have more than once commended your common-sense contributions to the discussion of everyday affairs; but I am somewhat disturbed by your latest public pronouncement. You seem to think we are getting too tender-hearted, and you would have us cultivate a grim Spartan logic in our treatment of the physically unfit. You doubt if it is altogether wise carefully to tend our sick and ailing brethren with a view to prolonging their span of human life. "Would it not be better," you ask, "to let some of them die out?" I fancy your suggestions will meet with a chill response from men and women with warm human hearts. The ethics of the laboratory make but a scant appeal to the generality of men. Call us misguided if you will, but we are not yet ready for the methods of the farm and stockyard in relation to the ultimate mysteries of life and death.

JOHN BULL.

To Arthur Fell, Esq., M.P., Channel Tunnel Committee.

SIR,—Heartily in accord with your project, upon grounds of general convenience and commercial utility, I rejoice at the wide measure of sympathy and support you have secured from members of all political Parties. It is, indeed, good to know that for once in a way a matter of high national moment has been raised above the petty bickerings of factious strife. I am convinced that the general public are in hearty accord with your aims, nor is there no criticism of your scheme which can bear exhaustive examination in the light of present-day facts. I trust that you may yet dispose of the minor difficulties which temporarily beset you, and carry your plans to successful fruition. You will then have builded better even than you know.

JOHN BULL.

To Spencer Leigh Hughes, Esq., M.P., Journalist, London.

DEAR "SUB ROSA,"—Your unchanging rôle of Radical jester makes it a little hard to sound the depths of your convictions, but I have generally regarded you as a man of sturdy common-sense, with a sane outlook upon public affairs. I am somewhat mystified, however, by your inconclusive utterances upon the topic of maritime supremacy. Quite recently you were in active association with cranks and faddists whose light-headed antics are a sore vexation to those responsible for Imperial defence; but now, with a wondrous rapid change of front, you have "come out strong" in the other direction. "The policy of the Liberal Party," you declare, "is to have an overwhelmingly supreme Navy." I hope you are right, though so confident a pronouncement accords but strangely with your earlier attitude. I trust, however, that it reflects your matured convictions, and that you have at length seen the utter folly of worrying the man at the wheel. What a pity you did not talk like this at the recent Hackney meeting!

JOHN BULL.

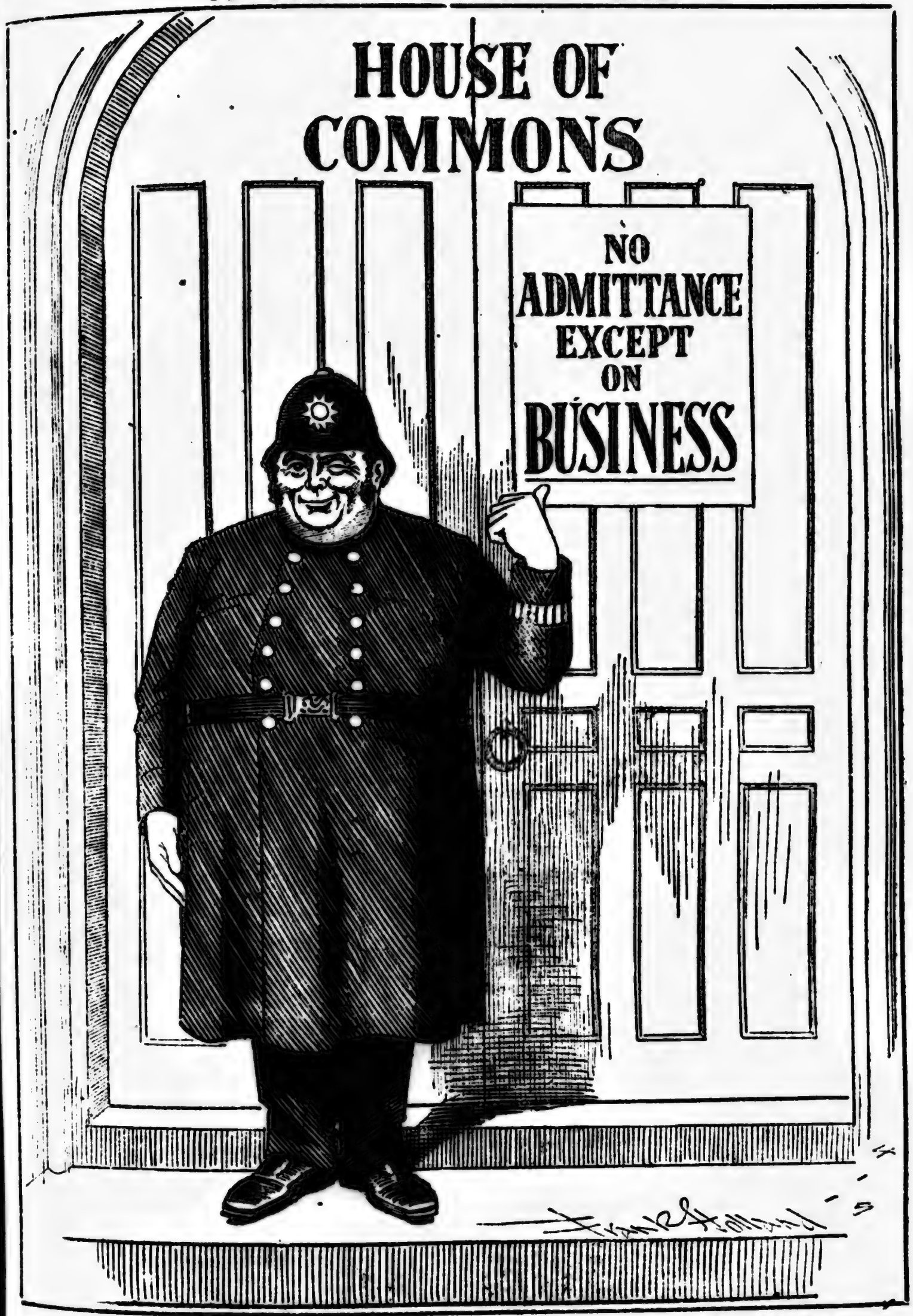
To Mr. Magistrate Mayglothling, Police Court, Worcester.

SIR,—The other day you made from the magisterial bench an allegation against a Birmingham solicitor, Mr. Hall-Wright, which, if true, is evidently a matter for the consideration of the Law Society, and which, if not true, ought to be withdrawn. In brief, you said it was a perfect scandal that this solicitor "did not appear for the defence after having previously obtained from the prisoner the money in his possession, £1 3s., for the purposes of the defence." I am not specially concerned for the reputation of the solicitor—he must look after it himself in his own way—but this is a public matter, involving a general principle of professional honesty and honour, and it is difficult to believe that you, as a magistrate, would gratuitously attack any man's professional character—involving in this case his livelihood—without the clearest proof. Therefore I ask you, sir, where and what are the proofs, and what means do you propose to take to give this solicitor an opportunity of meeting them?

JOHN BULL.

Don't forget the Pen Coupon on page iii. of cover.

A PARLIAMENTARY "BILL."



Soon the Party hack will find,
John will prove more hard than kind;

All must be on BUSINESS bent
When they come to Parliament!

THE CAREFUL MAN.

By J. F. B. Aumonier.

The careful man must not be confounded with the mean man. They are two entirely different species.

The mean man keeps himself—and everything else he can get—to himself; and if he gives nothing away he expects nothing to be given him. *Per contra*, the careful man is a nuisance to all and sundry with whom he comes into contact.

His main idea in life is safety. Safety is his watchword. Risk is his *bête noire*. He is generally found in Government offices, banks and similar institutions, preference being given to those with a pension fund, and as a further precaution he is usually a member of several friendly and benevolent societies.

As a prudent man, he has of course insured his life. This step was not taken until he had received ample proofs of the stability of the company with whom he entrusted his premiums. The agent who "got" him died young.

His investments take the form of Consols, Railway Prefs., Trustee and Guaranteed Stocks, and worrying lest a European war or an earthquake should happen along and depreciate them renders the use of anti-fat concoctions utterly unnecessary.

On a railway journey he is invariably found in as near the centre of the train as possible, since statistics have proved that in the event of an accident the proportion of killed and injured is less there than at the extremities.

At sea he is to be found in the vicinity of the lifebelt chest or sitting on a floatable seat, and it is "odds on" that he has a bundle of corks, a pair of water wings, and some biscuits upon his person.

Music halls and similar places of entertainment he religiously eschews—also those twin comforts—alcohol and tobacco—lest he should be regarded as a *roué* and thus imperil his chance of promotion.

In summer he wears a cabbage leaf in his hat to ward off sunstroke, in winter the vendors of chest protectors and cork soles can reckon on his money.

He usually shirks the responsibility of marriage. If, however, he does enter into the bonds of matrimony the lady of his choice is usually of Caledonian origin and endowed with a snug little sum.

His back garden is given over to the cultivation of vegetables, so that in the event of war he can view the risk of a diminished food supply with equanimity.

His conversation is limited and is usually confined to demonstrating the truth of those admirable adages, "Look before you leap" and "Better be safe than sorry," whilst his religion is based on "God helps those who help themselves."

After providing against any and every known contingency that may arise to disturb the even tenor of his way, it is more than likely that a banana skin lying on the pavement will upset his equilibrium, and he departs to "that bourne from whence no traveller returns," whereupon his heirs promptly proceed to divide his hoardings.

OUR CRANKS' CORNER.

Once upon a time a missionary set out with a great resolve, a barrel of whisky and a large collection of old maids' offerings to lead the poor benighted Aborigines of Australia into the blessed light of civilisation. The whisky he took in order to let the blacks taste it, so that if they came into contact with it again they could thrust it from them as a thing accursed. Unfortunately, the good man lost all his luggage in the Bush, and, having no companions to cheer him or food to sustain him, wandered aimlessly for several days. He was about to give way to despair when he saw smoke rising some distance away. Fearing savages, and not having the wherewithal to soothe any beasts which he might encounter, he crawled carefully towards the spot—and was almost there, when a voice exclaimed, "What the Hell do *you* want?" The missionary scrambled to his feet, stumbled forward crying, "Thank Heaven I am among Christians," and fainted away.

Moral.—A soft answer is not worth a curse in the Bush.

No other soap gives so good a lather.

"ERASMIC"

SHAVING STICK

DOES NOT DRY ON THE FACE.

BEWARE OF FOREIGN IMITATIONS.

10d per Stick, in Nickel Case

OF ALL CHEMISTS & HAIRDRESSERS.

ERASMIC *Perfumers*, WARRINGTON.

IONA

SCOTCH WHISKY

Of rare age and possessing a distinctive mellow flavour "Iona" has to the full those superlative qualities which have made Scotch whiskies famous the world over.

It appeals to the most critical palates as a tonic beverage of the highest standard.

"IONA" can be obtained from your wine and spirit merchant. If he hasn't it in stock, he can get it for you.

G. & J. Maclachlan, Ltd.,
Glasgow.

Auchentoshan Distillery, Established 1820.
N.B.

"Oh, look! Here it is!"

—'A Marriage has been arranged.'—

"Wasn't it lucky that we heard about the 'Midland' Ideal Terms. But for the 'Midland,' we might have had to wait another six months, instead of being able to get the very home we had set our hearts on—to get it straight away, without touching our capital or paying a penny for interest or deposit. And father was quite right in saying that

"Money buys more at the 'Midland.'"

Their vast business and the middlemen's profits they save by being actual manufacturers enable them to give the best value consistent with that supreme quality on which their reputation, as London's Leading Furnishers, has been based for more than half a century.

They charge nothing for credit—no deposit, no interest. All furniture purchased on the "Midland" Ideal Terms is **insured against fire free; and, should the purchaser die, it becomes the absolute property of the wife, without further payment.**

IDEAL TERMS
(Town or Country).

Worth.		Per Month.
£10	..	£0 6 0
£20	..	0 11 0
£30	..	0 17 0
£40	..	1 5 0
£50	..	1 8 0
£100	..	2 5 0
£200	..	4 10 0
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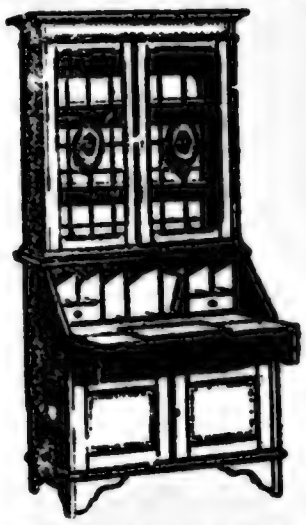
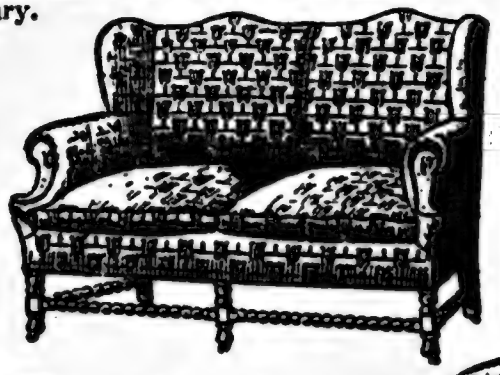
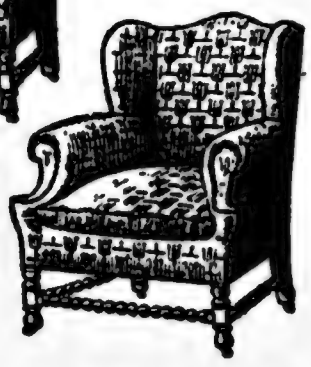
Larger amounts pro rata.

10% discount for cash.



Oak Bureau Bookcase, soundly constructed, with leaded light glass doors and fitted with fall front, 3 ft. wide, 7ft. high, 1ft. deep. **£4 15s. 0d.**



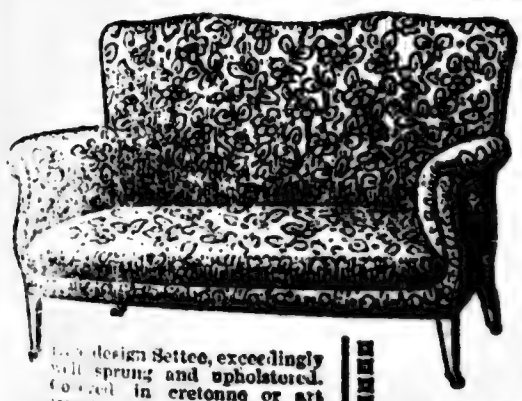


A very soundly constructed three-piece Suite carried out on Jacobean lines with underframe and loose cushions. Splendidly upholstered and covered in old world design tapestry. Finished a rich antique brown.

£9 19s. 6d.

Railway Fares Paid.

Customers' fares to town paid on all orders of £20 and over. Country orders packed and delivered free.



Oak design Settee, exceedingly well sprung and upholstered. Covered in cretonne or art tapestry to customer's choice.

£3 18s. 6d.

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This new and very handsome volume—the finest and most comprehensive guide to furnishing ever published—contains over 1,000 photographs actually taken in our Furniture Salons. The book will be sent **free** on receipt of a postcard with your address. **Write for it to-day.**

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Contractors to H.M. Crown Agents for the Colonies,

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Seven doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station. 1 minute from British Museum Tube Station.

Hours—9 till 8. Sats—9 till 1.

Governing Director, **GEORGE MICHAEL** *(who has been associated with the business for 10 years).*

CLERGYMAN (*admiring little boy's legs*): "Ha, ha, my little man! And who's got nice round, chubby legs?"
LITTLE BOY: "Mummie."

SIDELIGHTS ON PARTY POLITICS.

III.—HONOURS ARE EASY.

In compiling their lists of candidates for honours, for submission to his Majesty the King, Party leaders find one of their most difficult tasks. As men of wide knowledge—though, politically speaking, narrow practice—they, of course, are always aware of dozens of deserving claims to distinction, which the unhappy exigencies and insecurity of their political position prevent their recommending for recognition. Many of them—financial purists of the most extreme type, who would hold up their hands in horror at the faintest suggestion of ministerial corruption—unhesitatingly acquiesce in a political system which is maintained only by organised jobbery, bribery, and log-rolling of the most flagrant character. No more damning comment upon the Party system can possibly be made than to say that it is based, not upon the consent of the people, but on the vanity of wealthy partisans, who are willing to feed the Party war chest in exchange for honours or other social distinctions and advantages. The inherent common sense of the British elector is beginning to revolt against a system which uses him as a mere pawn in a game, whereof the object is to win personal aggrandisement and fleeting celebrity for the protagonists. But the power of money is still so great that until a new morality takes possession of the political conscience of this country, and it comes to be counted a disgrace to gain honours by means of Party rather than public services, the scandal will continue. The Party system is based, not upon truth, justice, righteousness, or common sense, but upon the judicious distribution of filthy lucre. Check the supply of cash, and you kill the system; and politics, purified, become what they should be—the greatest of human labours: the science of organising human effort, not for the profit of the few, but the benefit of all.

Let us, in imagination, conceal ourselves for a few moments in the council chamber of one or other of the great Parties. Necessarily it must be the one at that moment in power, for the subject under discussion is the Honours List. A name—Brown, Jones, Robinson, or Smith, it matters not—is placed before the Party Boss by his tame wire-pullers.

"Who is this?" asks the chief. "I have never heard of him before to my knowledge."

"He is a good Party man," reply his lieutenants. "A wealthy candle manufacturer. He expects a knighthood at least—a baronetcy if possible, as he is ambitious for his son—wants to found a family, and all that."

At this stage of the proceedings one might reasonably expect the Party Boss to ask: "What has he *done?* In what way has he earned the special recognition of his sovereign? Has he invented a candle that will throw light on the dark mystery of human pain and misery, and thereby earned the gratitude not only of this generation but of all time?"

Not at all. The question that issues from the lips of the chief is a far more practical one—from the Party point of view. It is:

"How much has he given?"

He has, it appears, contributed anything up to fifty thousand pounds to the war chest, and has promised as large a sum if his ambition is gratified. Disappointment will mean the withdrawal of his "support" and possibly the transference of his patronage to their political opponents.

And in due course the world is informed that Mr. Brown, Jones, Robinson, or Smith, as the case may be, has been singled out by his Majesty for a knighthood, *in recognition of his political services!*

What a prostitution of terms! "Political services!" In other words, the bribery of Party leaders with money made by the conversion of rancid fat into candles.

What a game it is!

£1,750 Offered for a Football Forecast. New Contest. See page 31.

THE GREAT

SKIN-CURE

There's nothing to equal Zam-Buk for eczema, ulcers, poisoned sores, scalp troubles, piles, injuries, &c. Of unique herbal origin and completely free from rancid animal fats, Zam-Buk soothes pain and irritation, purifies and regenerates the diseased flesh and grows new healthy skin in a wonderful way. All imitations are worthless.

Scalp Sores.

Bad Leg.

Zam-Buk

When Cremorne Flourished.

IN the reign of Queen Victoria, when Cremorne flourished, "Craven" was even then an honoured name in the realm of Nicotia, sought after by the grandsires of the present generation as the tobacco of their highest desires.

"Craven A" carries on the best traditions of the classic name and enables the pipe-smoker to enjoy pure, perfectly-blended and naturally-matured tobaccos of the choicest quality at the popular price of sixpence an ounce.

CRAVEN "A" MIXTURE

"Sixpence an ounce."

CARRERAS, LTD., CITY ROAD, LONDON, E.C.; and at 55, Piccadilly, W.
Established 1788.

BRONCHIAL ASTHMA

And Difficult Breathing—So choked up every winter he could hardly get his breath—Nothing did any good but Veno's—Man of 66 instantly relieved and perfectly cured.

Mr. Tom Hall, the popular host of the "Queensbury Arms," Regency Square, Brighton, writes:—

"Before I had Veno's Lightning Cough Cure," said Mr. Hall, "I used to suffer regularly every winter with acute asthma and difficult breathing, and all the doctors' medicines I took could not keep me right. If ever there comes a touch of wheeziness a dose of Veno's soon clears it away and makes me as fit as a young one, though I am sixty-six. The way I came to try Veno's Lightning Cough Cure was this: I had caught a pretty bad cold on my chest, which, with my asthmatical tendency, soon choked me up to such a degree that I could hardly get my breath. I coughed day and night till I fairly ached with coughing; but take what I would I could not get my chest free. My wife suggested a mustard plaster, and I had it on, but it did not relieve me. Nothing did. My breathing was just as tight as ever.

"Well, it so happened that I had been reading about Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, and I thought I might as well give it a trial. I did, three doses that day and one at night. I slept like a top—don't think I coughed once. In the morning my breathing was quite easy and the cough loosened. Soon I felt better than I had done for years, and now I wouldn't have anything in place of Veno's. I have recommended it to scores of my friends, and they have thanked me afterwards. It is a grand medicine—nothing like it in my opinion."

Mr. Hall, Brighton.

AWARDED GRAND PRIX & GOLD MEDAL PARIS HEALTH EXHIBITION, 1910.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE

Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is the safest and surest remedy for

COUGHS AND COLDS, BRONCHITIS, LUNG TROUBLES, INFLUENZA, OLD-AGE COUGHS, ASTHMA, NASAL CATARRH, WHOOPING COUGH, BLOOD SPITTING, DIFFICULT BREATHING.

9½d A Bottle.

Larger size, 1/12 and 2/9. The 2/9 size is the most economical. Of all Chemists, or post free from the Veno Drug Co., Ltd., Veno Buildings, Manchester.

CAPTAIN WALTER RAND.

AN ANTICIPATED EPITAPH.

Beneathe
Thys luckie stone
Lies
(In more waies thanne one)
Ye carcase of
Captain Walter Rand
Whoo
Infefted Englande durynge
Ye earlie yeares of ye Twentieth Centurie.
Born
In ye Unyted States of Americka
(Where ye swyndlers, rogues, impoftors, and other difhoneft perfons
Come from)
Hee wente toe schoole,
Learned Wafhyngton's lefson backwards,
And departed for Ceylon.
In ye ayre of thatte Ifle of Spices
Hee soone became hotte stuffe,
And sette hys mynde toe thynke
How hee coulde mofte eafilie diddle
Hys felloe creatures
And earne a comfortable and difhoneft livynge
Wythouten much exercion.
Wythe thys end in view
Hee bought quantities of cheap butt prettie
Bitts of cryftal,
Of noe more value thanne
Ye pebbles onne ye beache,
Called them
LUCKIE STONES
And
Proceeded toe difpose of themme toe
Gullible Yankees
(Ye whyche some people thynke doe notte exifte).
They proved luckie stones indeed,
Toe hym.
Butte, toe themme thatte bought themme
They proved
Four-and-sixpence worthe of trafh,
And dear atte ye pryce.
Havynge flooded Americka wyth hys lyttle bitts of thynges
(Ye whyche were suppofed toe brynge goode fortune toe themme
Thatte pofsefsed themme)
He syghed,
Lyke Kynge Alexander,
For frefhe worldes toe conquer,
Soe came toe Englande.
Where,
For a whyle,
Hee worked ye same old wheeze
Upon ye ignorant and foolyfh,
Untill hee came under ye notyce of
JOHN BULL
Thatte didde itte.
16, Hart Street, Bloomsbury Square, W.C.,
Became
A little too hotte toe holde hym
And
Noe sooner thanne was defyrable,
Hee dyed,
And hys place knew hym noe more.

* * *

Here lyeth Captain Walter Rand,
One of ye Yankee trickfter band,
Whoo wyth hys so-called Luckie Stone
From fools woulde four-and-sixpence bone.
Butte, notwythftandynge whatt we've said
We are notte certayne thatte hee's dead:
Butte whether quick or dead, hys game,
You bette, is lying all ye same.

THE PAPER FOR WOMEN.
MARY BULL.
EVERY FRIDAY. — ONE PENNY.

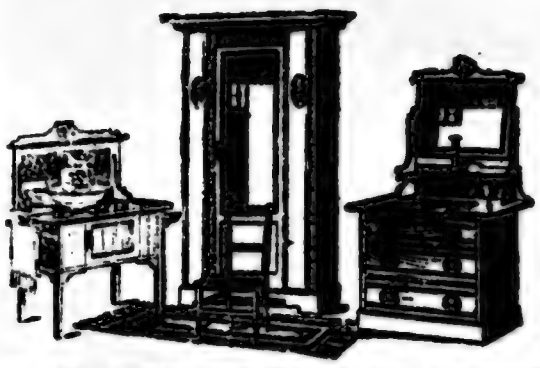
FOR COUGHS.
Owbridge's Lung Tonic
FOR COLDS.

THERE is an art in blending tobacco so as to bring out the finer shades of flavour.
Taddy's have been blending choice tobaccos since the reign of George II. They have put the cumulative experience of 170 years into
TADDY'S
LONDON MIXTURE
packed in 1 oz. and 2 oz. packets and in 2 oz. ½lb. and 1 lb. tins. 8d. per ounce.
Always smoke Taddy's Tobacco the finest tobacco in the best blend

LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS.
SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP OFFER.
To be a Relieving Officer, Rate Collector, Assistant Clerk to Guardians, Registrar of Births, etc., or to hold any Poor Law post whatever, is to be sure of Permanence, Prospects and Pension. The P.L.P.T.C. offers SPECIAL HALF-FEE SCHOLARSHIPS by which YOU can learn to secure one of these lucrative posts. Write now. Stamped and addressed envelope MUST be sent, marked "Scholarships," to the
POOR LAW POSTAL TRAINING COLLEGE,
68, Thanet House, Strand, London, W.C.

"You see it's the Real Hackney Quality"

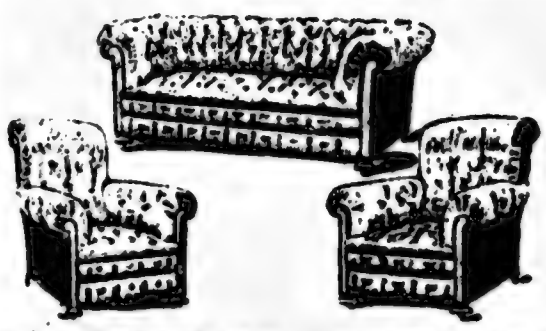
—one of the reasons why they have over 40,000 customers.



Bedroom Suite in Solid Satin Walnut—Four Pieces—Washstand fitted with towel airers and Wardrobe fitted with three-quarter length mirror and coloured glass side panels.

£8 17s. 6d.

(This suite can be polished mahogany if required.)



Three-piece Chesterfield Suite, beautifully upholstered, overspring, easy, and extremely comfortable and luxurious. Covered in Superior Art Tapestry.

£9 15s. 0d. only.

A beautifully designed 4 ft. Inlaid Mahogany Sheraton Style Bedroom Suite, comprising Wardrobe fitted with full length oval mirror, Dressing Table with swinging oval mirror, Washstand, fitted with towel airers, and two cane-seated Chairs.

£14 14s. 0d.

Railway Fares paid to our Showrooms on any order of £20 or over.

You can always be sure of the Hackney Quality — and when you think that there is probably no other Furnishing Firm in the world that can claim such a huge clientele (we enjoy the confidence of over 40,000 customers), you will understand that such a business could never have been built up unless we give far better value for money than anyone else.

—At the beginning and in the end it will cost you less at the Hackney.

We give you credit without extra charge, we insure the Furniture against Fire free; and give every customer a Free Life Insurance Policy, whereby should the hirer die the Furniture at once becomes the property of the widow or child on without further payment. **Should you prefer to pay cash we allow an additional discount of 10%.**

A large Department is retained for Second Hand Furniture, and a current list of our large Stock will be gladly sent free on request.

Write for copy of Catalogue 'E.'

GENERAL TERMS.

Worth.	Per Month.
£10	£0 6 0
20	0 11 0
30	0 17 0
40	1 5 0
50	1 8 0
100	2 5 0
200	4 10 0
5 0	11 5 0
1,000	22 10 0

10% DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

FREE TEA ROOM, WRITING ROOM, AND LOUNGE

A Beautifully Appointed Tea Room, Writing Room, and Lounge is now open to all visitors at our **OXFORD STREET SHOWROOMS.**

A beautifully designed Easy Chair in Art Tapestry, well sprung and extremely comfortable.

£2 5s. 0d.

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FURNISHING CO.

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CHIEF SHOWROOMS AND GALLERIES—

TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, MARE ST., HACKNEY.

(Telephone: Dalston—5030 (4 lines.)

Branches: 448, High Road, Chiswick, W. (close to Turnham Green).
14, High Road, Chiswick, W. (3 doors from Young's Corner).
204, High Road, Streatham (facing library).
73, St. John's Road, Clapham Junction, S.W.
56, George Street, Croydon. 110, High Street, Putney

A. M. STEWART, Managing Director

HOURS OF BUSINESS: [illegible] Oxford Street: [illegible] till 7

POLITICAL PATTER.

SIR EDWARD GREY.

(*Sings*) *Air*: "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep."

Britons, surrounded by the deep,
May lay them down in peace to sleep:
Securely rest—no foreign knave
Britannia's children will e'er enslave!
I'm ready at the slightest call
To see no harm shall you befall.
So, calm and peaceful be your slee-ee-eep,
Guarded by Grey, and by the deep.

It should be a great comfort to you to know you have a man like me in the Cabinet. (*Cheers.*) True, I am a Party man—a Liberal; but I belong to that old-fashioned school of Liberalism which never gave an inch to the Tories in the matter of patriotism or anxiety for the safety and integrity of the Empire. (*Loud cheers.*) I am a Liberal by conviction; but I am a Britisher first, and would never hesitate to sacrifice Party considerations at the higher and holier call of patriotism. (*Prolonged cheers.*) Although I am a member of the Liberal Government I have no axe to grind. (*A Voice:* Wish they was all like you, guv'ner!) I have no log to roll. I am not animated by wild socialistic ideals like—(*A Voice:* Lloyd George!)—like some of my colleagues, nor convinced, like others, that we Liberals have received a special commission from on high to transform, by Act of Parliament, the British people into a nation of stained-glass-window saints with inconvenient haloes round their heads. I want you to see me as I am—a man free from fantastic fads—(*cheers*)—by no means a crank—(*loud cheers*)—and, I hope, not in the least a humbug. (*Deafening cheers.*) My task is to review from the standpoint of your Foreign Secretary, the European, nay, the world-wide political situation, and judge therefrom whether this is the right time to talk about a reduction of expenditure on Naval Armaments. (*Cheers.*) As I said the other day, the enormous and growing expenditure on armaments presses on the springs of industry. But the slackening off in armaments by one country does not mean a diminution of expenditure in others. (*A Voice:* That's a fact!) If the leading horse in a race slackens and is thought to be exhausted, the others do not slow down. (*A Voice:* They put up another spurt!) So they do; therefore, if we cut down our programme it will not affect the building programmes of Europe except, perhaps, to accelerate them. Consequently, notwithstanding our Suicide Clubs and Norman Angel Societies, and other faddists associations, we shall not, *we must not*, do it. So, whilst I remain chief of the Foreign Office,

Britons, surrounded by the deep,
May lay them down in peace to sleep;
Securely rest—no foreign knave
Britannia's children will e'er enslave!
I'm ready at the slightest call
To see no harm shall you befall.
So, calm and peaceful be your slee-ee-eep,
Guarded by Grey, and by the deep.

Readers desirous of improving their positions should write to the Secretary of the Practical Correspondence College, 11, Thanet House, Strand, W.C., for full particulars of their offer of 25 scholarships in black-and-white art for commercial purposes. The competitors' efforts will be adjudicated upon by a body of practical experts, amongst whom is our own Advertisement Manager.

FREE FIRST AID TO THE RUPTURED

Remarkable Mechanico-Medical Discovery Cures Rupture without Trusses or Operations.

1,000 SUFFERERS TO BE TREATED WITHOUT CHARGE.

Free Generous Test Treatment is offered to-day to readers suffering from rupture.

A remarkable all-day-and-night-working mechanico-medical discovery has been made which cures rupture, making further use of trusses unnecessary,

You can prove this for yourself free of charge. The discoverer of this wonderful method offers test treatment to 1,000 readers without payment. Write for this Free "First Aid" Treatment to-day.

CONTINUOUS TRIPLE ACTION.

The marvellous cures accomplished by the Stuart Plapao Pad (here illustrated) are chiefly due to its continuous triple health-restoring action.

1. It brings to bear a gentle, nicely-graded pressure on the exact spot—often no larger than your finger-tip, where the rupture is most easily held in position.
2. It continuously applies a wonderful secret principle to the stretched and weakened muscles, restoring them to their lost elasticity, strength and holding-power.
3. It attracts the strength-giving, tissue-building blood corpuscles to the affected part, strengthening the muscular wall of the abdomen and enabling it to hold the bowels in place without the harmful pressure of a truss.

THE DISCOVERY EXPLAINED.

The diagram explains how even the worst cases of rupture are swiftly cured by this method.

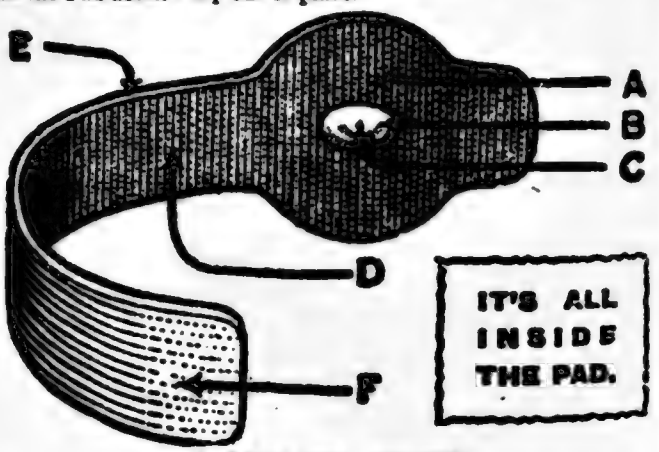
E is the strong flexible material of the Pad, shaped to the body and perfectly comfortable.

D is its adhesive inner surface—just like a plaster. Thus the Pad never gets out of place. From this surface special medicaments are absorbed by the skin, strengthening the tissues and helping to effect the cure.

A is the large end of the Pad. This overlies the stretched and weakened muscles, giving them immediate support and restoring to them their lost tone and elasticity.

B is the reservoir-containing Pad. It fits over and keeps back the protrusion and holds the rupture. The reservoir contains a secret astringent preparation. Warmed by the body's heat it dissolves and escapes through the small aperture C, and is eagerly absorbed by the pores of the skin. It tones up and wonderfully strengthens the weak muscles and enables them to hold the rupture in place without a truss or operation.

F is the long end of the Plapao Pad. It adheres over the hip-bone. Thus the Pad doesn't slip out of place.



MARVELLOUS BENEFIT.

The action of the Plapao Pad is continuous, night and day. It gets to work without discomfort whilst you are asleep and whilst you are awake. The unsightly protrusions disappear. The ruptured parts are held together. That awful dragging-down sensation vanishes. And in quite a short time you find yourself permanently cured.

Write for Free First Aid to-day to the Stuart Plapao Pad Co., Dept. J.B., 68, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C. By return you will receive Free First Aid Treatment (with full directions), and a gratis copy of the best book on curing Rupture ever published. All this will be forwarded in plain sealed wrapper and free of all cost. It is an opportunity that doesn't come to many. Seize it now. Write for Free First Aid Treatment now—TO-DAY—and be cured.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

FULL PROSPECTUS WILL APPEAR IN DAILY PAPERS THIS WEEK.

THE LIVER ICE AND COLD STORAGE CO., LTD.

(Incorporated under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908).

AUTHORISED CAPITAL - - - £60,000

DIVIDED INTO 60 000 SHARES OF £1 EACH.

ISSUE OF 60,000 SHARES of which 4,650 will be allotted as fully paid, as hereinafter mentioned

DIRECTORS:

EDWARD JOHN WORSLEY, Esq., "Hazeldene," Fleetwood," Lancs. (Chairman), Director of A. Worsley and Sons, Ltd., Haslingden and Bury, Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers.

EDWIN HENRY THOMAS PALMER, Esq., Brighton Street, Seacombe, Cheshire. Director of the Cheshire Ice and Cold Storage Co., Ltd., Ice Manufacturers.

ERNEST ALFRED TAYLOR, Esq., 2, Gloucester Road, Birkdale, Retired Manufacturer.

HANDEL ORMEROD, Esq., "Lomond Cottage," Rochdale, Coal Factor.

BROKERS:

C. T. HILDER AND CO., Gresham House, Old Broad Street, E.C., and Stock Exchange.

BANKERS:

THE LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LTD., Seacombe, Cheshire, and other Branches.

SOLICITORS:

JOHN WATSON AND ATKINSON, 25, Castle Street, Liverpool.

AUDITORS:

C. HEWETSON NELSON, ROBSON AND CO., 26, North John Street, Liverpool.

SECRETARY (PRO TEM.):
J. M. SIMPSON.

REGISTERED OFFICE (PRO. TEM.):
25, ALFRED ROAD, SEACOMBE, CHESHIRE.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of establishing, equipping and running an Ice Factory and Cold Storage Warehouse on the Liverpool side of the Mersey, and for the purpose also of acquiring the Ice Factory and other assets of the Cheshire Ice and Cold Storage Company Limited on the Cheshire side of the Mersey, and for the other purposes mentioned in the Company's Memorandum of Association.

The business of the Company will primarily consist in selling ice and storing perishable goods. The large volume of trade in Liverpool and the surrounding districts, together with the natural growth in population, and the present high prices charged for ice, have created a demand in the meat, provision, fish and kindred trades for an Ice Factory and a Cold Storage, fitted with the latest and most efficient type of machinery and capable of producing ice at a low cost.

To refer to the meat trade alone the requirements in the way of Ice and Cold Storage have enormously increased during the past few years, and are still increasing by leaps and bounds. Since 1900 Frozen and Chilled Meat imports have alone increased more than 100 per cent., and such imports now equal 54 lbs. as compared with Home-fed Supplies 61 lbs. per head of the population. The total weight of meat imported into the United Kingdom for 1912 was as follows:—Mutton and Lamb 5,029,244 cwts. (say 10,043,058 carcasses), Beef 8,357,189 cwts. (say 1,282,368 carcasses). Liverpool has always had a very large share of these imports, and under arrangements recently carried into effect a large portion of the chilled meat imports, formerly passing through Southampton, is now diverted to Liverpool.

THE REMUNERATIVE CHARACTER OF THE ICE MANUFACTURING AND COLD STORAGE BUSINESS IS SHOWN FROM THE FOLLOWING FIGURES:—

Name of Company.	Capital.	Dividends Paid.	Price of Shares.
The Union Cold Storage Co., Ltd.	Cum. A Pref. Shares 216 666	For several years from 10 to 12½%	£1 shares. Middle price £1 9s. 0d.
The Bon Accord Ice & Cold Storage Co., Ltd., of Aberdeen	£50,000	1907 20% 1908 20% 1909 22½% 1910 23% 1911 24% 1912 20% and a bonus of 5%	£1 shares, 10s. paid. Middle price £2 7s. 6d.
The Croydon Ice Co., Ltd.	£20,000	1912 15%	£1 Shares £2
The Cardiff Pure Ice & Cold Storage Co., Ltd. ..	£90,000	1910 10% 1911 ,, 1912 ,,	£10 shares. Middle price £12 7s. 6d.

The Company has entered into a Contract to purchase an exceptionally well situated leasehold site in Nelson Street and Benbow Street, Bootle, for the purpose of their main Ice Factory and Cold Storage Warehouse.

The advantages in having an Ice Factory on the Cheshire side of the Mersey (where there is no other Ice Factory nearer than Chester), are obvious.

ICE FACTORY.—The two essential elements for success in an Ice Company are first that the Company should have a constant market for its products and secondly that Ice should be produced at a very low cost.

Contracts for the sale of Ice have been definitely entered into by this Company with leading Meat Importing Companies', namely, with—

THE MORRIS BEEF CO., LTD., THE SWIFT BEEF CO., LTD., THE ARMOUR BEEF CO., LTD.

Estimated profits:—

	£ s. d.
From the Contracts for ice which have been or can be secured, the ice being manufactured at Nelson Street...	3,187 10 0
From Rent for Cold Storage at Nelson St.	5,000 0 0
From the sale of ice manufactured by the Cheshire Ice Co.'s present plant at Seacombe	1,040 0 0
From rent for Cold Storage at Seacombe ..	400 0 0
	9,627 10 0

NOTHING IS TO BE PAID FOR GOODWILL.

Failure to pay any future instalment on Shares allotted when due will render previous payments liable to forfeiture.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares can be obtained from the Company's Bankers, Solicitors, and the Company's Officers.

£1,562

5,073 PRIZES. VALUE £1,562. TO BE WON THIS WEEK.

"BULLETS"—the Best-judged Competition with Most Prizes.

First Prize. **£500** **First Prize.**

2nd Prize	3rd Prize	20 Prizes of	50 Prizes of
£50	£25	£2-10-0	£1 EACH.

500 Prizes of 5s.	2,500 Prizes of 2/6

AND

2,000 OTHER HANDSOME PRIZES.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

SISTER'S SWEETHEART	MY VALENTINE	HANDICAPPED	WHAT A SHAME
THE KING'S SPEECH	HOMESPUN YARN	BUSINESS METHODS	CONTEMPT OF COURT
LADY'S COMPANION	FULL DRESS DEBATE	AT IT AGAIN	AWKWARD COMBINATIONS
SHOULD TEACHERS TELL	BAD TENANTS	ORDERLY ROOM	WIFE AND FAMILY
FARTHING DAMAGES	A DOUBTFUL COMPLIMENT	AN EARLY SPRING	GREAT FUN
SINGLE YOUNG MAN	MAKING EYES	TOMMY'S POCKET	WHAT POLLY SAID
PARTY STRIFE	A GOOD SITUATION	ALL THE RAGE	BOILING OVER
BROKEN ENGAGEMENT	SHIPPING ORDERS	SITTING STILL	THE BOTTOM DOG
ACTIVE SERVICE	A TENDER SUBJECT	THE WEEKLY WASH	WELL WORN
REMAINS A MYSTERY	EASILY FIRST	DURRING ACCOUNTS	IN CANADA

How to Make Bullets. First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST AND LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "GREAT FUN," and take the letters "A" and "F," using the word "VILLAGE" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "AT VILLAGE FAIR." From the example "AN EARLY SPRING" the Bullet "GENERALLY APPRECIATED" can be formed. Again, if you choose the example "SINGLE YOUNG MAN," using the letter "A" as initial for both the first and last words, you can form the Bullet "ALWAYS SOUGHT AFTER."

Competitors can send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see the "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, February 18th.

Example.....

Bullet.....

Example.....

Bullet.....

(72) P.O. No.....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

.....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated February 21st.

Closing date, Wednesday, February 18th.

Example.....

Bullet.....

Example.....

Bullet.....

(72) P.O. No.....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

.....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order or 1/- Must be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 72," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

"BULLETS" RULES

(Which must be strictly adhered to).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Editor, and his special staff of adjudicators, is the best [illegible] received, and the other prizes in order of merit. Originality and aptness will be taken into account. The [illegible] divid a prize or prizes among two or more competitors.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the [illegible] page, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d., made payable to JOHN BULL, crossed [illegible] & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, [illegible] and the date of sending the solution on the back of the postal order, and the number of which must be noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending [illegible] one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner, or have [illegible] of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, February 18th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified [illegible]

7. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of this Competition. Every coupon is judged by [illegible] members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been selected by reason of their high qualification for this work. These set aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected [illegible] DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to secure a prize. Then all coupons selected are passed by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to a certain [illegible] total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the [illegible] order of leading merit. These are placed before the Editor, who after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. The [illegible] Judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually [illegible] whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a long [illegible] sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the minor prizes, the claims of outstanding merit are considered [illegible] times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and his Adjudication staff in consultation, before the final award of Prizes. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and re-read and re-considered, by a specially selected staff of duly qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in every case the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a competition entirely free from any and every element of arbitrary decision and chance selection.

Result of 69th Bullets Competition.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500:—

Mr. DOUGLAS E. KAY,
7, Willesden Avenue, Rusholme, Manchester.

Example:—SOLDIER'S SWEETHEART.
Bullet:—HEARS "KILLING" STORIES.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mr. HARRY MUTTON,
13, Hanover Terrace, Holland Park, London, W.

Example:—NOT IN REQUEST.
Bullet:—THE "DRY" TOAST.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:—

Mr. WM. MILLER,
44, Park Drive South, Whitelnch, Scotland.

Example:—PEACEFUL PERSUASION.
Bullet:—LOCKING JURY UP.

CONTINUATION OF WINNERS p. 31.

THE RESULT OF THIS COMPETITION WILL APPEAR IN OUR ISSUE DATED MARCH 7th.

Bull's Eyes.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION :—
Do they call it the "Put-it-off" incident now?
Isn't General Smuts the man for "dirty work"?
Are the strings ever pulled in Football Cup "ties"?
Are *you* making money out of football? See page 31.
Isn't Lloyd George making good use of his "dukes"?
Are the Stock Exchange "bears" having a "bull-y" time?
Hasn't Winston Churchill got a "game" of his own to play?
Are the Herefordshire Education Authorities going to be taught something?

* * *

A dead cert is better than a live may-be.

* * *

"Thin Ice," is the name of a new novel. We must skim over it.

* * *

A sweet apple with a blemish or two is better than a sound quince.

* * *

Returning officer, to the victor at Durham: "Aneurin Williams."

* * *

The result of a man's deliberations *in camera* is often seen in his negative.

* * *

"Dame Disappointment," an article is headed. Many shorten the description.

* * *

Larkin says the whole Labour movement is "in the doldrums." Can't they "raise the wind"?

* * *

Aughton School has two scholars and one master. The kids should be well-t-Aughtons.

* * *

"Murder at a Concert," reads a headline. Who was the unfortunate composer this time?

* * *

The writer who heads his article "The Riviera Rush" should have put the last word in italics.

* * *

John Twigg has been fined £1 for smoking near a powder magazine. Twigg was "twigged."

* * *

A man named Frederick Cross has been fined for assault. What was Frederick Cross about?

* * *

"The Joy Ride Girl," a new musical play is to be called. The young lady will be sure to go.

* * *

Arthur Roberts says that cinema shows are "like mustard without beef." He provides both.

* * *

Once let a woman know that you can't do without her and you can never do anything with her.

* * *

"A kiss may be anything you like," says a writer. Or, if she be old, something you don't like.

* * *

"The dukes have had their day," we read. Yes, and the middle classes are having their knights.

* * *

Lord Ribblesdale says that "art, like murder, will out." Yes, and the penalty for both is hanging.

* * *

A Willesden policeman has invented a thief-proof pillar-box. We have never heard of one being stolen.

* * *

Germany is said to be projecting a state monopoly of cigarettes. A "smack in the mouth" for smokers.

* * *

A weekly paper has an article on "Leg Muffs." Front rows of the stalls at the Empire—eh, what?

* * *

New silk hats have been sold for 2d. each in Blackpool. The "stovepipe" is evidently "up the flue" there.

* * *

A Hollander who saved another from drowning was rewarded with a penny cigar. The donor evidently knew his own value.

* * *

A Crayford couple went for their honeymoon on a motor-cycle. We hope they didn't have a "bust-up" on the way.

* * *

Someone is advertising for an "Ancient ruin, which could be restored." Here's a chance to get rid of the Houses of Parliament.

* * *

A scientist says the cranial capacity of the savage is about the same as that of the average Oxford undergraduate. This is severe—on the savage.

Printer's Pie.

(THE WORK OF THE "DEVIL.")

"MANCHESTER GUARDIAN":—
"Herr Ballin . . . rarely leaves Hamburg except for business journeys or to escape from some public CEMETERY."

"SUNDAY CHRONICLE":—
"The ropes were subjected to a strain five times as great as any that COULD BE placed upon them."

"FAMILY ALMANAC," published by Mr. A. S. Kitching, Chemist, Market Street, Oakengates:—
"KITCHEN WRINKLES: TAR may be OBTAINED from the hands by rubbing with the outside of fresh orange or lemon peel and drying immediately."

"CANADIAN COURIER":—
"Capt. H. G. Kendall . . . detected Dr. Crippen, the notorious MURDERER OF ETHEL LE NEVE."

"MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS" Answers to Correspondents:—
"R. E. W.—(1) The Presidents of the United States of America SINCE 1899, have been: BENJAMIN HARRISON (1899), GROVER CLEVELAND (1893), WM. M'KINLEY (1897 and 1901)."

"NORTHERN DAILY TELEGRAPH" table of football results:—

	Pld.	Won.	Lst.	Drn.	Goals. For	Agst.	Pts.
Swindon Town ..	22	15	4	4	51	23	32
Reading	22	10	4	5	27	23	25
Queen's Pk. Rangers	23	8	6	8	27	24	24
Plymouth Argyle ..	20	10	5	4	29	27	24
Southampton ..	24	8	10	4	32	37	20

"CANADA":—
"A reviving rush of capital emissions has as yet failed to damage sentiment, and the latest FLUCTUATIONS have met with CONSPICUOUS SUCCESS."

"MERTHYR EXPRESS" report:—
"James Davies (22), butcher, Pengam, was charged with driving on the 7th inst., WITHOUT A LICENSE ON THE NEAR SIDE, and was fined 10s."

"HONGKONG DAILY PRESS":—
"To-day, being a holiday, Mails per *Empress of Russia* WILL BE CLOSED YESTERDAY, at 6 p.m."

"DAILY DISPATCH":—
"This place, 'a house of mystery,' had been standing EMPTY for ten years in a very dilapidated condition, but FURNISHED AND CONTAINING VALUABLES."

MR. MAURICE WOLFF, 462, St. Catherine West Montreal, advertising in the *Bell Telephone Directory*:—,
"FLOWERS delivered to all boats and trains and TELEGRAPHED to all parts U.S. and Canada."

"SCHOOLMISTRESS":—
"In a month or two hundreds of YOUNG WOMEN who have given the best of their YOUTH and MIDDLE AGE to the education of the children of this great nation, will be shown into the street!"

ANNOUNCEMENT IN "THE LADY"—
"Northamptonshire. Farmhouse, board-residence. Indoor sanitation. Hunting district. Golf, driving. ALSO LADIES. Moderate terms.

MR. C. AVENELL, Beasmarsh, Shalford, advertising in the *Surrey Weekly Press*:—
"For Sale, 4 large stock Geese, one GANDER; JUST ABOUT TO LAY, 30s."

"BEDS. ADVERTISER AND LUTON TIMES":—
"Fish may be SCALDED much easier by FIRST slipping them into BOILING water for a minute."

MR. W. D. ATFIELD, Butcher, Pulborough, advertising in the *South of England Advertiser*:—
"Butchers.—Wanted, a good all-round man for shop and slaughterhouse. Able to KILL AND DRESS ANYTHING."

Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published in this column. Should more than one competitor call attention to the same blunder, the amount will be forwarded to the sender of the first letter opened. In the case of newspaper cuttings sufficient must be forwarded to identify the name of the journal and date of issue. Envelopes to be marked "Printer's Pie" in the left-hand top corner.

Result of our No. 9 Football Contest. All the Winners on page 5.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR!

GEMS FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

"For some considerable time since I have been endeavouring to trace the settlement of ——— ——— ——— (see *London Gazette*, page ——, issue ——) who died at Liverpool, between the years 1815—1820 (approx.), but to date have been unable to do so. In this connection I shall be obliged if you will inform me under what headings I should be able to trace the aforesaid settlement, and also the name and address of a person who would be willing to finance the case to a successful issue."

* * *

"I see in your Paper that you assist a great many People to get Justice. Hence my reason for drawing your attention to my Poster. I am nearly distracted but not daunted. ———, ———, Swansea, is the Grandfather of my trouble. He is the Head of a Black Hand Gang they have ruined scores of Women and Homes. I should have been Transported were it not for letters which I have in my Possession. The Doctors Magistrates Solicitors & Police Know that I am making awefull charges against ——— & his Confederates. I have tried to get Solicitors to take the matter up they decline. several of them telling me they are afraid of the Gang."

* * *

"If it Lies in your Power will you inform me the name of the (ship) carrying Troops to India since the year 1892 which done the journey in the shortest time, state time if Possible and date."

* * *

"I have been financially hurrused by a Landlord in a Farm in Sussex not owing one penny rent I should like to put him through your newspaper have got correspondence from Solicitor."

* * *

"I should be very glad if you could forward me on 'Madam Sherwin's' address as I was told you would know I have inquired at shops. But they said if I wrote to you I should be shure to get the address."

* * *

"I have the honour most respectivefully to approaching you with this object of which I hope that you will receive through to the General post office London and afford you to forward me one of your Illustrated Catalogue price list in due time I remain yours."

* * *

"I am writing to ask for your assistance, because I know how freely you give the same to anyone in need of it. I have just lately been looking up family records and find from comparing dates etc, together with facts told me earlier on in life by my Grandfather, that my mother was a distant cousin of the late Sir John ——— ———. I know my Grandfather ——— ——— was actually cousin to the 9th Sir John ——— ———. What I want you to do for me, is to give me the name and address of the solicitors in charge of the estate, also if possible a copy of the advertisement asking for claimants to the same."

OUR (MAD) POET'S CORNER.

ODE TO SPRING.

SPASM I.

When sparrows twitter in the trees,
And lambkins frolic on the leas,
While housemaids revel on their knees.
And welkins ring;
When mother washes down the walls,
And scrubs out the ancestral halls,
And baby in the whitewash falls,
You know it's Spring.

RELAPSE II.

When Nature starts her green to show,
And bids farewell (perhaps) to snow;
While poets like me their hair let grow,
And nurses sing;
When noses are no longer red,
And grandpa gets out of bed,
'Tis then, you know, unless you're dead,
That it is Spring.

PEPS

Protect Your
THROAT & CHEST

TAKING Peps regularly is the surest safeguard for throat and chest this sort of weather.

When you go out slip a little Peps tablet in your mouth. You will immediately become sensible of a warm, invigorating glow spreading through all the breathing tubes.

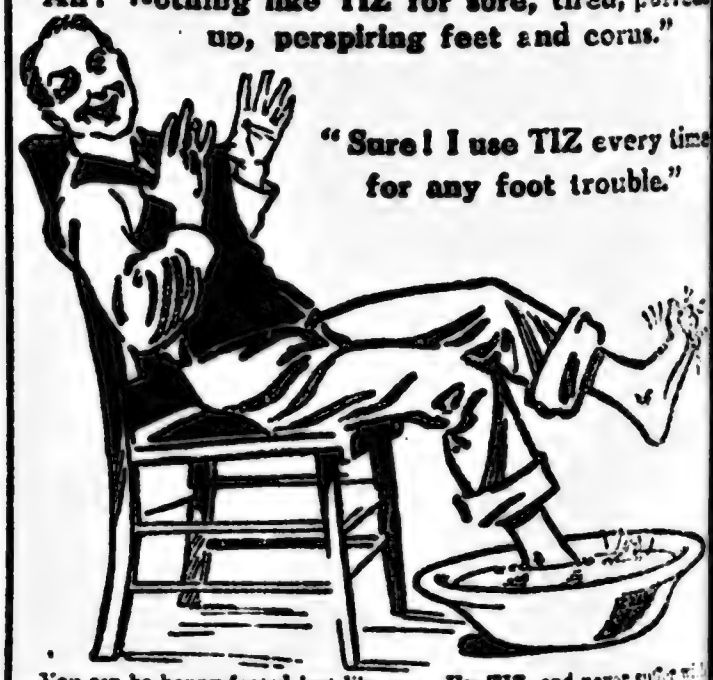
The strengthening and germ-destroying Peps medicine comes from the dissolving tablet in the form of fumes, mixes with the breath, and so reaches every part of the throat and chest direct.

Peps stop inflammation and soreness of the delicate membrane lining the throat and air tubes; they prevent harmful germs from settling in the throat and enable the lungs to resist disease.

Of all Chemists and Drug Stores, or from The Peps Co., Carlton Hill, Leeds, at 1/1½ or 2/9

Can't beat "TIZ" when Feet Hurt.

"Ah! Nothing like TIZ for sore, tired, puffed-up, perspiring feet and corns."



"Sure! I use TIZ every time for any foot trouble."

You can be happy-footed just like me. Use TIZ, and never suffer with tender, raw, burning, blistered, swollen, tired feet. TIZ and only TIZ takes the pain and soreness out of corns, hard skin, and bunions.

As soon as you put your feet in a TIZ bath you just feel the happy-ness soaking in. How good your poor old feet feel. They want to dance for joy. TIZ is grand. TIZ instantly draws out all the poisonous exudations which puff up your feet and cause sore, inflamed, aching, perspiring feet.

Get a 1/1½ box of TIZ at any chemist's or stores. Get instant foot relief. Laugh at foot sufferers who complain. Because your feet are never, never going to bother or make you limp any more.

NEW MAMMOTH FOOTBALL SKILL CONTEST.

We commence this week another Great Football Contest—for Two Weeks this time—the matches selected being played on Saturday, February 28th. We have adopted a two-week contest because next week's fixtures are so much disturbed by the Cup-ties. We have increased our prize for an all-correct coupon to £1,750, while £500 will be paid if one error only. In any event £50 must be won. Wins and draws only are required. There are no entrance fees. You can send as many coupons as you like.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the League games to be played on Saturday, Feb 28th, given on the entrance form on page 2 of our cover. **Before making your forecasts read carefully the new method of marking your forecasts as explained on the coupon.**

£1,750 FOR AN ALL-CORRECT COUPON.

The huge sum of **£1,750** will be paid to the competitor sending us an entrance form containing correct forecasts of all the matches given which are played to a finish. If, owing to bad weather or other causes, a match is not completed, it will be disregarded. Thus, **ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.**

Should it happen that no Entrance Form be received giving the whole of the correct results, **£500** will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows one error only. In the unlikely event of neither the £1,750 nor the **£500** being won, we shall in any event pay the cash prize of **£250** to the sender of the most correct forecasts, whatever the number—even if only 8 or 10. In addition we shall pay a cash prize of **£50** for the most correct forecast sent on a Mauve Coupon taken from MARY BULL. This is a distinct and additional prize—a Mauve Coupon signed by a lady, means the sender has the opportunity of winning not only the £1,750, £500, or £250, but also an extra £50.

The RULES and COUPON will be found on PAGE 2 of COVER.

The competition is one of pure skill, and a test of knowledge of form. Competitors should make a point of studying the Football columns of the newspapers.

Our elaborate checking arrangements and our new method of marking the coupon safeguard the interests of our competitors in every way and render even an attempt at fraud impossible. The risk of a coupon being overlooked is totally eliminated.

Our Football Competition department is now under the personal supervision of "MeW." the well-known football writer, late of the "Morning Leader" and "Daily Chronicle."

£50 "MAUVE." COUPON PRIZE.

A Special and extra prize of £50 is again offered for a "Mary Bull" Mauve Coupon. Thus by using a "Mauve" Coupon competitors have the opportunity of winning not only the £1,750, or the £500 or £250, but also an additional £50. The first Mauve Coupon will be found in the issue of "Mary Bull" on sale Friday, February 13th.

SCOTTISH READERS MAY ENTER.

We are now able to accept entries from readers resident in Scotland, so specially invite our Scottish readers to participate in this contest.

Address: JOHN BULL, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. Mark envelope, "Football Contest No. 12." Closing date, Friday, February 27th.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 28, where you will find part coupons of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. Over 5,000 Prizes are to be won this week. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered for the Best "Bullet" received, in addition to 3,072 other cash prizes.

Further List of "BULLETS" Prizewinners.

FOR NAMES OF FIRST THREE PRIZEWINNERS SEE P. 28.

20 PRIZES OF £2 10s.

Mr. JOHN SAMMET, 20, Bold Square Chester:
SIGHT CURE—GAY DOG'S "LICENCE."
Mr. C. PICKMAN, 78, St. James' Road, Tunbridge Wells:
LEAVING THE CORNET—"AIRS"—A GRIEVANCE.
Mr. HENRY REED, Long Ashton, Bristol:
SPIDER'S WEB—INSECT "INSIDE"—INSECTICIDE.
Mr. W. J. MAINWARING, Gravel Bank, Ynysmudw, Pontardawe, Glam.:
PRETTY DARNED—"TILL" SHE "ALTERS."
Mrs A. MILES, 104, Gordon Road, Nottingham:
A BAD HEAD—"BLIND" MAN'S "BLUFF."
Mr. E. T. MORGAN, 1, Selby Road, Leytonstone:
MR WISE SAYS—SWITZERLAND—PURSE, SOUTHEND.
Mr. W. DENNIS, 9, Plantation Street, Cloughfold, nr. Manchester:
PEACEFUL PERSUASION—COSTER'S MOKE ASTONISHED.
Mr. G. ROGERS, 55, Capel Street, Newport, Mon.:
MADE TO ORDER—TOMMY'S RAILWAY AGE.
Mr. J. P. BURTON, 72, Wheelwright Road, Gravelly Hill, Birmingham:
PAYING TAXES—NEW YEAR "GRATINGS."
Mr. L. GRIFFITHS, 53, New Queen Street, Chesterfield, Derbyshire:
MADE TO ORDER—REDEEMED PLEDGES—OPTEN.
Mr. A. FOWLER, 7, Mount Street, Newton Heath, Manchester:
TAILOR'S CALL—SOME "KID" ANSWERS.
Mr. J. WILKINSON, 23, Jepson Street, Gorton, Manchester:
UNAVAILABLE—NOT TOYMAKER'S AMBITION.
Mr. S. COHEN, 1, The Parade, Birmingham:
PEACEFUL PERSUASION—NEWSPAPER PROPRIETOR'S PORTRAIT.
Mr. J. H. DAVIS, 17, St. Germans Road, Forest Hill, S.E.:
TAILOR'S CALL—A "SORRY" AFFAIR.
Mr. J. W. PERRY, 14, Edward Street, Dudley, Worcester:
ALWAYS STANDING—AMATEUR BOWLER'S WICKETS.
Mrs. F. J. BURT, Railway Hotel, Liphook, Hants:
THE BEST COMPETITION—"COMPETENCE" GUARANTEED.
Mr. J. O. KIERNEY, 25, Coronation Drive, Crosby, Liverpool:
ALWAYS STANDING—WILLIAM O'BRIEN'S WEAKNESS.
Mr. D. KEAT, sen., 108, Mathias Road, N.:
PEACEFUL PERSUASION—PICKERS "TICKETS" PLEASE.
Mr. G. H. HARGREAVES, The Mill, Stillesham, Chichester:
GROWING PAST—GROCER BECOMES "STORES."
Mr. E. TOWNEND, 1, Southend Parade, Eltham, S.E.:
PEACEFUL PERSUASION—POWDER IN CHOCOLATE.

Reduced Facsimile of the
£500 "BULLETS" CHEQUE
Paid to Last Week's FIRST PRIZEWINNER
The original of the above Cheque will be on view at the premises of Mr. F. Dickinson, 35, Market Street, Ulverston, from Thursday, February 12th.

Selection from 50 Prizewinners of £1 Each.

Killin, E., 60, Kingsdown-av., West Ealing, W.
Knight, Mrs. F. W., Oak-pl., Vale, Guernsey, C.I.
Leigh, W., 209, Moorland-rd., Cardiff.
Lovatt, J., 15, Kingsley-pl., Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Luck, W. G., Laurel Bank, Wadhurst, Sussex.
Marshall, M. E., Commons Farm, Cornholme, Todmorden.
Martin, Miss M., Belvidere Hospital, London-rd., Glasgow.
McCormick, P., 22, Parkhurst-rd., Manor Park, E.
McDermott, A., 138, Wentworth-bldgs., Aldgate, E.
Moore, F. G. J., 11, Colman-rd., Eaton, Norwich.
Nash, A., 42, Bower-st., Maidstone, Kent.
Nichols, W. H., The Capital and Counties Bank, Ltd., Cambridge.
Nilsen, A. R., Grove Lea, Lansdown-rd., Bath.
Peake, J., 13, Crichel-rd., Winton, Bournemouth.
Phillips, E., Tan-y-Bryn, Barmouth.
Rowland, A., 102, Grosvenor-rd., Ilford, Essex.
Salisbury, F., 11, Douglas-st., Ramsbottom, nr. Manchester.
Scott, H., 33, Oak-st., Southport, Lancs.
Sinclair, Mrs. A. C., 1,203, Govan-rd., Govan, Glasgow.
Smith, A., Hildens, Hindley, Lancs.
Smith, Mrs. A. P., 56, Shenley-rd., Camberwell, S.E.
Smith, P. H., 121, Tooting Bec-rd., Tooting, S.W.
Stenning, W., 38, Pennard-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.
Sutherland, T., s.s. "St. Magnus," Aberdeen, N.B.
Thomas, J., 63, Ings-lane, Castleford, Yorks.
Walker, A., 23, Moore-st., Seymour-pl., W.
Weller, R., 127, Golderoft, Yeovil, Som.
Whittle, W., 29, Lincroft-st., Moss Side, Manchester.
Wilson, C. A., 18, Ball Haye Green, Leek, Staffs.
Wood, C., 31, Thurston-rd., Anfield, Liverpool.

"JOHN BULL" £50,000 DERBY SWEEP.—Will readers please bear in mind that we cannot either supply or reply to applications for books of tickets for this sweepstake; nor can we act as agents for receiving and forwarding money for tickets. All communications *must* be addressed direct to Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland.

Complete List of all "Bullets" Prizewinners can be seen at these offices

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

Each Financial and Insurance Inquiry must be accompanied by Postal Order for One Shilling, and must be addressed to the City Editor, 52, New Broad Street, E.C.

Legal Inquiries must be addressed to the Legal Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C., and must also be accompanied by a Postal Order for a Shilling.

GENERAL.

"JOURNAL—ARMY SCANDAL."—If you will send us, in confidence, your name and address, it may be to your advantage.

C. L. (Edinburgh).—You will notice that we have now opened our Football Competitions to Scottish readers. Go in and win!

"ANONYMOUS" (Dolgelly).—Many thanks for the pretty flowers.

H. S. P. (Norwich).—Are you a smuggler, too?

"COCK ROBIN" (Oldham).—We have no further time to waste upon Lewis, the leg-puller, at the moment.

H. C. R. (Wargrave).—Thanks for the interesting caricature of ourselves, which you send us, but you do not identify the journal. In any case, however, we are far too vain to reproduce it.

F. E. B. (Winchester) thinks that after Prob. Webster's admissions, his lady acquaintances will hesitate before inviting him to dinner. But "F. E. B." forgets that the reverend gentleman goes to such functions duly "prepared."

H. A. B. (Camberwell) "cannot imagine a more backboneless, jelly-fish class of individual than one who admires JOHN BULL's muddy columns of impurity." Our reply to "H. A. B." is B. A. H.!

W. W. (Prestwich) wants us to give the clergy a rest and turn our attention to the wicked journalists. Now, she *has* given us a job!

H. J. W. (Southampton) says: "What a treat it would be if one could buy penny bottles of concentrated essence of JOHN BULL's common-sense."

G. B. B.—We quite agree that "there is nothing better to keep men level than responsibility." The editorship of this journal is a very responsible post!

"A FRENCH GENTLEMAN."—Your kind donation of £5 to our "Human Document" Fund was duly acknowledged in our issue dated January 24th, the amount being assigned to Human Document CCLXXXI.

W. H. (Paddington).—We can quite understand that you find it difficult to reconcile our "Letter Bag" paragraph of November 8th, in which we say "We do not recommend you to have any dealings with the Sanitary Training College, of 335, High Holborn, W.C.," with the advertisement of the concern stating "'Worthy of every confidence,' says the famous weekly JOHN BULL." As a matter of fact, the laudatory words purported to be quoted by the College form part of a paragraph which appeared on December 20th, and which read: "All we can tell you is that we have been assured, *on the authority of gentlemen of substantial position*, that the Sanitary College, of High Holborn, is worthy of confidence." It will thus be seen that the extract has been garbled; and upon our bringing it to the notice of the Training College officials, they assure us that their advertisement agent inserted the words without their knowledge, and that they have now been withdrawn.

P. H. (Darlington), A. T. B. (Rotherham), and OTHERS.—We presume the journal in question is in financial difficulties. In future confine your competitions to us.

W. D. B. (Brighton).—Sorry we have no time at present to look up the statistics of crimes due to religious mania. Besides, probably they would be described by some other name.

F. H. (Hull).—We really do not know how to advise you as to the best way "to write different articles," or "to write short stories." Writers, like poets, are born—not made.

"INQUIRER" (Preston).—It sounds particularly kind of the Investment Registry, Ltd., of London, to ask your friend to supply them with a list of his investments "so that they may advise a re-arrangement of the same," with the object, presumably, of increasing his income. Er—exactly. We hope so in case not. They may have a secondary object—to increase the income of the Investment Registry, Ltd.

F. A. B. (London, S.E.) tells us of a tradesman in the North of England who advertised boots "warranted to give absolution." This is a matter for the Kensitites to take up, unless the tradesman meant "ablution."

J. J. F. (Burnley).—Norman Briggs, of 14, High Street, Royston, is a new name to us, but the fact that he demands 2s. for "disbursement, book-keeping expenses and etc.," before disclosing particulars of the employment offered, should put any reasonably intelligent man on his guard.

W. D. (Huddersfield) asks us to lend him our whip, because, he says, "There is a chap at our Mills every time he sees me he calls me allo John Bull, or Horatio, he's one of these party men, you know. I don't mind, you know." Mind! We should think not, indeed! W. D. ought to feel proud.

W. P. M. (Beckenham).—We advise you not to take up an agency with I. A. Hardy and Co., of 70-72, Chancery Lane, E.C. Their sonorous sub-title, United Kingdom, Colonial and Foreign General Accountancy Offices, merely covers a debt-collecting business—and a shady one too!

"MENTALISM" (Durham).—Our opinion of the American Institute of Mentalism, Los Angeles, California, is—another impertinent Yankee trap to catch fools.

"MASTER J. H." (Greenwich) informs us that "it is not the usual custom to shake hands with the left hand." What about when a man shakes hands with himself?

T. A. P. (Dudley).—In the interests of your future patience we refuse to pander to your curiosity by giving you the information you desire.

T. H. McA. (Christchurch).—If you thought Mr. Fred Ginn of "Wild Australia," would let you ride his "bumping mule" on your terms, you must have been an ass. The challenge drew a big audience. That was all he wanted.

"SYBIL" (Liverpool) writes: "Could you recommend any treatment to increase my height?" Yes; get someone to pull your leg.

W. W. (Bournemouth) asks if King George has the power to dissolve Parliament without consulting his Minister. Yes; he has the power, but too much sense to use it. We are not aware that "the Liberal Government has at any time brought in a Bill preventing Gas Companies from paying exorbitant dividends." But such companies are limited by their legal constitution in this respect.

"NEMO" (London).—Though *Fashions For All* says that "After the creation, when all the animals began to have their young, God took each new-born one in turn and threw it over a high mountain so that it should find its feet at once," but that when God wished to treat the first baby in the same way and the mother clung to it and would not let go, God got angry and decreed that babies should not be able to walk for a whole year, we do not advise you to believe the awful fib.

F. S. (Southwark).—Sorry, but it is not a case such as we contemplate for our "Human Document" fund.

J. R. G. (Maidstone).—Evidently you are of Lord Salisbury's opinion that baths and parlours are unnecessary to labourers' cottages. And even we are inclined to admit that at a pinch a man, or woman either, may do much with a piece of soap and a pie-dish.

"ULSTERMAN" (Belfast).—Can't say whether "the Mormons are working the city" or not, but evidently the Pacific Land and Water Co., of Boise City, Idaho, U.S.A., and Kingsway House, Kingsway, Strand, W.C., are. Our advice to Ulstermen is to let the Company keep their water and land.

E. F. (Liverpool).—We have enquired into the Kephalol Competition and see no reason to doubt its *bona fides*.

W. J. H. (Devon) is highly indignant on account of the following advertisement which appeared in the *Western Evening Herald*: "Wanted, two Army or Navy Pensioners; light work; 10s. weekly.—Apply Millbay Rinkeries. Boozers keep away." We see nothing in it to raise Cain about; for who can put his hand on his head and declare that there are no boozers amongst Army and Navy pensioners? Booze is no respecter of persons or professions.

"Bullets" Judging has been Judged by Competitors and found—perfect.

W. C. R. (King's Lynn).—Sorry we cannot help you in the matter of the cigarette competition in which you have been "done." The journal in which it appeared cannot be depended upon. We should have thought our "Bullets" and Football competitions were enough to satisfy the most ardent lover of skill contests.

E. S. (Kennington Park, S.E.).—Many thanks, but we gave the quotation from Voltaire on Party Government several weeks ago.

"DORFO" (New Basford).—You send in your "Bullets" and "Printer's Pie" material quite correctly. We hope you will succeed in winning a prize, which will be the most convincing proof.

E. R. (Caerphilly).—Shun the Waterman Advertising Co., of 43, Theobald's Road, London, as you would shun the evil one.

G. S. (King's Norton).—You say "rite me soon and Let me know as possible." What do you want to know? We can make neither head nor tail of your communication.

Mrs. F. K. J. (Rhymney) asks if we will "please mention in your Editor's reply what you know of the London Drapery Company, 235, High Holborn, London, W.C.," to whom she recently sent 1s. deposit on account of drapery ordered, but has received no acknowledgment, either by letter or in kind. We can truthfully say that we do not think we have heard of the concern before.

A. F. R. (Brill) thinks "affiliation order" cases should be tried *in camera*, so as to make it less painful for the plaintiff when under cross-examination. We do not agree. It is so easy for a woman to swear to the fatherhood of her child, and so difficult for the accused to prove his innocence, that the utmost publicity in such cases is desirable in the interests of justice.

"BAY MASTER" (Gib.) wants to know if it is lawful for a boy to swear on oath upon entering the Army. Yes, and he usually adds many more when he is in it.

J. H. N. (Salop).—Cannot express opinions on cases *sub judice*.

"JUSTICE" (Seven Kings).—Our correspondent ventilated his complaint; you ventilate your satisfaction. You are glad; he is sorry; and that's where you differ.

H. B. (Dover).—So the International Institute of Psychical Research guarantee to teach you hypnotism for the sum of £1 the usual fee being £2. If you are fool enough to send the money you will prove yourself more likely to become a victim of hypnotism than a professor of the art.

J. P. (Weeley).—Pray excuse us.

A. N. (Durham).—It is no part of our mission in life to constitute ourselves an encyclopædia in order to pump knowledge into people who haven't the energy to pump it into themselves. Look into the *Encyclopædia Britannica* or *Chambers' Encyclopædia* at any public library and you will find what you want. It is really not fair to worry us with such questions

"GLADYS" (Cobham).—At a guess we should say the writer of the letter is somewhat of a professional at that kind of importunity.

"THOROUGH" (Airdrie) is an ironworker, but is ambitious to be a conjurer, and asks us to find him a partner who will stand all the expenses. We know a few tricks ourself, but that one is quite beyond our powers.

J. C. (Aldershot).—You must not conclude from your experience of the Kent County Industrial School—which you call "one of the, if not the best"—that our recent criticism of Industrial Schools was not based upon fact. Every word we have printed on that subject is undoubtedly true. Therefore we are the more pleased to read your praise of the school you name.

M. P. (Sheffield) tells us that employed in the Highways Department of the Sheffield Corporation are three sons of an ex-councillor, which he thinks is rather too much of a good thing, and not fair to ratepayers who have sons they would like to get into some of the offices. But what is the use of being an ex-councillor if you can't do your sons a bit of good? What?

"INQUISITIVE" (Belfast).—We see no reason why you should not be well instructed in bookkeeping and business training by the International Correspondence Schools, but, of course, only practical experience can make you thoroughly efficient.

A. B. C. (St. John's, S.E.).—The "H.B." Hart Company, Carlton House, Gt. Queen Street, W.C., has not been specially brought to our notice.

A. G. S. (Cardiff).—We warn our readers against the Universal Mail Order Institute, of Westminster Bridge Road, London, because it is a Yankee flat-trap of the most flagrant character.

"SPORTING SCOT."—Since our "Bullets" Competition was started, five First, five Second, and four Third Prizes have gone to Scotland. So you see Scotland *does* stand where she did.

E. K. R. (Plymouth).—We must have overlooked your "letters of the 24th ulto. and 8th inst. *re* Messrs. C. & R." Whom do the initials represent?

MRS. R. R. (S. Ealing, W.).—Not a bad story, but nobody would believe it. With ladies for our champions, we are in luck indeed.

"MUKKA" (Bognor).—"When the day arrives that Party politics are found dead the verdict will be suicide while permanently insane. . . . . The H. of C. to-day is like a sheep run; the leaders the shepherds, the whips the dogs and all the rest sheep. In this connection, how many M.P.s elected last elections opened their heads during the session?" Couldn't say; but a fairly large proportion were discovered cracked.

"TRICKED" (Forest Gate, E.).—We don't suppose you are the only one who has rented a typewriter and lived to regret it. We refer, of course, to the machine, not the human operator.

W. S. (Salisbury) wants to know whether "Levy" is a Jewish name. We are afraid W. S. has neglected his Bible.

"CASCA" (Harpenden), referring to the London Jewellery Syndicate, of Barbican Court, E.C., says: "I consider it no more and no less than a fraud." Certainly no less.

"CRIPPLED POET" (Margate).—We have read your verses and are familiar with your methods, which no doubt are apt to constitute a nuisance to visitors, to say the least. How can you say you give your leaflets, when, in fact, you return to collect them, or money for them? With your physical state we have every sympathy, as had the magistrates, and they dealt with you in a kindly spirit.

"BROAD-MINDED" (Croydon).—As you really must express surprise at the matter we sometimes find necessary to insert in our paper, let us return the compliment and express surprise at the matter we don't find necessary to insert in it—your own ponderous effusion included.

"MISS E. MACH." (Dublin).—If we awarded a biscuit to the *Daily New* for saying that the attempt to extend the area of the Dublin strike was worse than a crime because it was a blunder, we should be laughed at. It is a paraphrase of a remark of Joseph Fouché (wrongly attributed to Talleyrand, who merely stole it): "It is more than a crime, it is a political fault;" at least, Fouché says in his "Memoirs" that the saying was his, though the genuineness of the "Memoirs" is disputed by his sons. He was Minister of Police under Napoleon.

C. B. (Swanage).—We are sorry if you have been unjustly treated by the magistrates after 18 years of cab driving, but we have always to keep in mind that one side of a case only holds good till the other is told. We do not know the other.

"SOUTH-WEST" (London) tells us that out-patients at Guy's Hospital able to pay a shilling are attended to before those who cannot afford to do so. Well, we suppose funds must be procured somehow.

"KIMBERLEY" (Brighton).—We are afraid you would never make a wireless operator, as, judging from your letter, you appear to have acquired the peculiar habit of putting a full-stop after each word. This might create confusion, if not something worse, when transmitting messages. We cannot recommend any schools of instruction.

F. S. (Birmingham).—We should look at £3 a long time before we handed it over to Herr. F. Lowe, Brazilian Agent, as a guarantee of our good intentions in taking the clerkship he offers in Rio. The sum is too large to lose, and too small to serve the purpose for which it is required.

J. B. F. (W. Kilbride).—We cannot trace your "few remarks on Scotland." Perhaps you will repeat them—provided they are not too depreciatory: for we have many Scottish readers, most of whom seem to be supersensitive regarding their country.

T. P. (E. Dulwich).—Sorry, but we cannot compel the L.C.C. to run trams from the Embankment to Forest Hill as formerly. The L.C.C., unfortunately, is outside our jurisdiction.

H. J. (Hammersmith) tells us that at Blackpool he noticed outside a certain café a card bearing the legend "Children supplied at these tables." That is nothing. We know of a dairyman at Tunbridge Wells who undertakes to supply families "to any part of the town." There are so many old maids in Tunbridge Wells that he ought to do a roaring trade.

J. S. (Cromer) writes: "If you live to be as old as 'Methuselah' you will never write a better or more truthful article than 'The Demon of Democracy.'" Pooh! Don't you believe it. Think we've reached our zenith already? Wait and see.

A. D. (Chudleigh).—It seems very hard, on the face of it, to have been discharged from your job for humming a tune whilst you were at work, but not having heard you hum we cannot say your discharge was not justified. It may have been rag-time!

M. S. (Aberdeen).—We have never yet heard of an authentic drink cure, so that the experience of your friend does not surprise us in the least.

5,073 CASH Prizes to be Won this week. See page 28.

LETTER BAG.—Continued.

LEGAL.

J. B. (Bristol).—An illegitimate child may not be registered in the name of the father without the father's consent before the Registrar, when he, as well as the mother, will be required to sign the register. There is no penalty attaching to the *calling* of a child by his father's name by the mother without the father's consent, nor do we think there should be.

A. G. O. (Darlington).—If you think you can substantiate your claim to money which has been lying in the Bank of England for over 150 years, you should in the first instance place the facts before the Governors of the Bank. Yours is only one of thousands of cases which prove the necessity for our Dormant Bank Balances Bill.

"HOMEFINDER II." (Southend).—The fact that the man falsely declared the lady's age as twenty-one when it was but nineteen does not invalidate the marriage, though it renders him liable to severe punishment. The fact that he has since deserted her does not annul the marriage, but if she does not hear anything of him for seven years she is entitled to presume his death, and remarry. Should it subsequently transpire, however, that he was alive at the date of the second ceremony, such marriage would be void, but she could not be punished for bigamy.

W. W. (Beverley).—You cannot get the will set aside unless you can prove that your mother was not of sound capacity at the time she executed it, or that she was induced to sign by undue influence or fraud. The procedure is technical and costly, and we should advise you to leave matters as they are; otherwise there will be little left after the lawyers have finished.

W. H. Y. (Hampstead).—"Swindlers" is a strong term to apply to a firm of chartered accountants for no other reason than that an estate in their charge as trustees under the Deeds of Arrangements Act has realised only half-a-crown in the £, while the trustees', solicitor's, and other expenses amount to 90 per cent. of the value of the estate. Don't forget it is the law which is smiling in your face all the time it is picking your pocket.

F. D. (Forest Gate).—Of course a solicitor is not entitled to any part of a barrister's fee. If the barrister did not have a clerk we should think he could not demand the clerk's fees, but all barristers of any standing keep, or share, a clerk. If you will give us the name of the gentleman we will look into the matter.

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Inquiry.

CUNLIFFE, RUSSELL AND CO.—W. L. (Crieff).—Of course, you cannot expect Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., to give you the benefit of their services unless you are a client, but we can assure you that they will treat you in a perfectly honourable manner.

ROUMANIAN OIL WELLS.—"ANXIOUS."—We think well of this undertaking.

JOHN BULL BANK.—T. J. L. (Leicester).—Yes, perfectly sound, and just the thing for your purpose. Address the Manager, Old Jewry, London, E.C.—DEPOSITOR.—The *uniform* rate of interest is 5 per cent., and you cannot beat that anywhere. See reply to "T. J. L."

SOUTH AFRICAN LANDS.—"AFFAY" (Portland).—This company has been disappointing, and the prospects of a dividend are remote. We think you had better sell, although there is always a chance of favourable developments. All work was suspended on the GREAT EASTERN COLLIERIES in 1909, and there seems little prospect of the mine being re-opened.

ESMERALDA.—"BULLITE" (Forfar).—There is not the least doubt you are responsible for the remaining call, and the only way you could get out of it would be to defend at law on the ground of fraud and misrepresentation. But it is a very expensive game, and it would be far cheaper to pay up. We do not think it advisable to keep CHARTERED.

RUBBERS.—"ROSENEATH."—We would not advise a purchase of rubber shares at present, as it is probable prices will go lower. Most of the shares you mention have a fairly free market, and any of them would suit your purpose if you fancy a dabble. We do not fancy your holding in HOTEL YORK Preference, but the loss would be heavy if you realised, and perhaps your best plan is to hang on in the hope that things will improve.

HALF-COMMISSION.—"STUDENT."—Don't you believe it. There are specialised agencies that get advance information but the fees are very high and would not suit the ordinary speculator, who will usually find all he wants in the daily papers if he reads them with intelligence.

TAYLOR-MILLS MUTUAL SELF-HELP MONEY SOCIETIES.—J. S. (Southport).—We do not recommend them as a desirable medium for the savings of the working classes.

LAW GUARANTEE.—D. T. (Glasgow).—We are afraid your "Fiscal" would not be in any better position than our own Public Prosecutor.

DARRACQ.—J. J. F. (Wimbledon) and D. E. H. (Dulwich).—We understand the company has been doing very well, but as you apparently do not mean to hold you ought to secure your profit. The capital is heavy and big profits in the motor industry will not last for ever. Look at cycle shares as a parallel case.

HUGGINS AND CO.—"INTERNOS."—No, you have not the remotest chance of any redress, but you will see the price of the shares has risen recently and you must have received the dividend of 3¾ per cent. last year. Why not average?

LAW INTEGRITY INSURANCE CO.—INTERESTED.—(Gloucestershire).—You complain that payment of claims is being withheld, the excuse made by the agent being that the Company are amalgamating with the Hearts of Oak. You had better instruct a solicitor to demand settlement forthwith.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA INSURANCE CORPORATION.—MAC.—The policy being in the nature of a new insurance, we should be inclined to cut the loss and assure with an established Office, paying good bonuses.

CITY OF GLASGOW FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—M. M. (West Lothian).—You complain that, after a membership extending over 27 years, you are unable to obtain the Free Policies you have applied for. Premiums not having been paid in consequence of your application, it is now pointed out to you that unless arrears are paid you will run "out of benefit." It appears to us that you have reason for feeling dissatisfied at the treatment meted out to you, and you had better renew your application for the Free Policies without delay.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—"JACQUES."—There is always risk associated with the upbuilding of a young institution, and it is difficult to forecast the future. The company is well managed and may ultimately reach a position of strength. At the moment, however, we are of opinion that its financial resources require to be strengthened, especially as it is engaged in the difficult task of establishing an Industrial Branch.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE.—"CYMRO."—Apply to the Graham Fire and Accident Insurance Society, St. Mildred's House, London, E.C.—a sound, progressive company.

SPORTING.

Sporting inquiries must be addressed to the Sporting Editor, 52, New Broad Street, E.C.

UNION "CLUB" (Sion).—S. B. C. (Liscard).—We really cannot spare a Biscuit for these people for stating in their Dog Derby Sweepstake circular that "everyone drawing a *horse* receives a prize." We have already warned our readers against having anything to do with them.

DOUGLAS AND SMITH (Geneva).—S. M. (Dublin).—We do not advise.

JOHN BULL DERBY SWEEPSTAKE.—W. W. (Oswaldtwistle).—Yes, we *have* satisfied ourselves that Messrs. Smallman and Terry are a substantial and highly respectable firm, and consequently *are* in a position to vouch for the *bona fides* of this Sweep—which is going to be a big thing.

PATRICK O'BRIEN'S GRAND NATIONAL SWEEP.—W. W. (Oswaldtwistle).—To use your own phrase, this is quite "sound." We have arranged to personally superintend the Draw, and you may rely upon everything being straightforward and above board.—R. G. D. (W. Hampstead).—The result of the draw will be published in JOHN BULL.—CORPORAL E. S. (Sheffield).—We note your experience and your statement that "you think the least you can do is to write and tell us (voluntarily) how prompt and businesslike Mr. O'Brien met the claim" you made. Of course he did.

TURF POOL SYNDICATE (Geneva).—R. H. (London, S.E.).—We have made inquiries and understand that two tickets bearing the draw numbers H1195 and H1196, were despatched to you to Box 2419, Johannesburg, at your request.—T. L. B. (Port Glasgow).—The address of the Turf Pool Syndicate is Geneva, Switzerland.—E. P. (Reading).—You must apply direct to the Syndicate. In no circumstances can we act as agents for the issue of tickets.

"LONDON MAIL" DERBY SWEEP.—J. C. (Cape Town).—Of course, perfectly genuine.

BOUVERET SPORTS "CLUB."—L. W. W. (Newton Abbot).—The letter from these people which you send us is a farrago of nonsense and falsehood. They are evidently very sore at our pointing out the specious character of their circulars.—DOUBTFUL.—Of course, there is no *bona fide* club, and the photograph of the "club" premises is simply that of a Hotel in which these people rented a few rooms.

GALE'S SPECIAL.—W. T. (Southampton).—We have made inquiries and from the information we have received the answer to your question is decidedly in the affirmative.

Spend your leisure time in making "Bullets." There's Money in it. See page 28.

CITY NOTES.

(For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see Letter Bag pages.)

The Stock Markets.

There has been a decided pause in the upward rush of markets, and on the whole it is regarded as rather welcome than otherwise. Prices were running away a little too fast—getting, perhaps, out of reach of the genuine investor, and if the pace had continued much longer there would certainly have been a nasty set-back. As it is, the reaction is quite a healthy one and will do more good than harm, while it is very likely that business will broaden out again when the fortnightly settlement is out of the way. But there were several good reasons for dealers adopting a cautious attitude. Money continues easy enough, and the Bank is in a very strong position, but profit-taking before the account, chiefly by professional operators, has been the principal lever in depressing prices. It is generally expected that there will be a recovery when the settlement is disposed of. The rush of new issues, however, is assuming rather dangerous proportions, and the supply of surplus capital is not unlimited. Home Railways have receded in spite of satisfactory dividends and reports, but we are still of opinion that they are good to buy, both from a speculative and investment point of view. Breweries have continued to advance, and there are still many bargains to be picked up, especially among the Preference shares and Debentures. Rubbers have taken fresh courage from the rise in the price of the commodity, but the market looks rather dangerous, and in our opinion very few shares are a tempting purchase at the present level. Oils continue to attract a good deal of business, and there is a wide-spread feeling that this section has the best chance in any strong speculative movement when it arrives. Mines are quite out of favour for the present, and it will require a new field to bring the public back. South Africans have been marked up, and are left there till the bears come in, but it would be difficult to sell much stock without sending prices down. The "Wonder Zoo" section has given another display of the possibilities of market manipulation, but the general public are content to look on. For the moment they are waiting for investment bargains, of which, as we have already pointed out, there are still many, and are leaving speculations severely alone. But signs are not wanting that the latter will have their turn, and provided that the movement is not hysterical there is every reason to anticipate good times for the House—in the best sense of the word.

Jamaica Estates and Rubber Plantations.

This company was formed in July, 1909, with a capital of £300,000 divided into 299,900 Preferred shares of £1 each, and 2,000 Deferred shares of 1s. each. The prospectus stated that the directors would not go to allotment unless at least 100,000 Preferred shares were subscribed, so that the company ought to have started with a reasonable amount of working capital. This might naturally be inferred from the names on the board which was composed as follows:—Sir Edwin Cornwall, D.L., M.P. (chairman), Sir Henry Arthur Blake, G.C.M.G. (formerly Governor of Jamaica), Lord Osborne Beauclerk, Rt. Hon. Lord Teynham, D.L., J.P., Joseph Nolan, Esq., M.P. (Director Pure Jamaica, Limited), and the René Landrieux, Esq., (Director West India Cold Storage, Limited). Yet a few months ago at a meeting of shareholders it was resolved to place the company in voluntary liquidation, and Mr. James Austin, a clerk in the company's office, was appointed liquidator. A shareholder in the unfortunate company informs us that he has written the liquidator various letters, and has called at his office in Union Court, Old Broad Street, several times. Our correspondent, however, has never been able to catch this elusive liquidator, and he has had no reply to his letters. Other applicants for information appear to have been equally unsuccessful. We wonder whether the directors are aware of these facts. It is disgraceful that shareholders should have the door closed in their faces in this way. Unfortunately there is no legal remedy worth going to very considerable expense, but if the directors do not move perhaps some shareholder will consider it worth while to circularise his fellow proprietors and form a combination that will command more respectful attention. In the meantime we shall be glad to publish any explanation the directors have to offer.

Steel Corporation Results.

There was a tremendous falling off in the figures of the United States Steel Corporation for the final quarter of last year, the net earnings falling to $23,036,000, the lowest amount recorded for the past six years, and the balance availed for dividends on the Common and Preferred stocks was only $11,656,000, as against $24,169,000, although the allowances for depreciation and replacements amounted to no more than $4,068,000, against $7,786,000. The net result is a deficit of just over a million dollars for the quarter, as against a surplus of $7,411,000 at the end of 1912. All these particulars point to a tremendous slackening off of trade in the United States.

Liver Ice and Cold Storage.

In our issue of November 1st we referred to an abridged prospectus which had come into our hands and complained of the meagreness of the information given to intending investors. Particulars are now available, however, in great detail, and we observe that there have been various important alterations in the constitution of the undertaking. We note one or two interesting features, not the least important, perhaps, being the establishment of an ice factory on the Cheshire side of the Mersey, where there is no other such factory nearer than Chester. It appears that the Company has entered into important and valuable contracts with the Morris Beef Co., Limited, the Swift Beef Co., Limited, and the Armour Beef Co., Limited, under which these great undertakings are bound for five years to buy all the ice they require in Liverpool, Bootle or Birkenhead for their refrigerating cars or any other purpose exclusively from the Company. It would thus seem that the concern starts with a large amount of assured business of a profitable character. Much further important information—upon the absence of which we commented in November—is now afforded, and the scheme, under efficient management, seems likely to justify the expectations held out in the prospectus.

Great Centrals.

On several occasions recently we have referred favourably to the prospects of Home Rails, and especially the lower priced stocks, which have been under a cloud for one reason or another, or where a full year's dividend is due within the next month or two. This opinion has been justified by the Great Central dividend announcement, which gives the 1891 Preference its full 4 per cent. dividend against 1¼ per cent. for 1912, and the 1894 Preference 2 per cent. against nil, leaving £8,700 to be carried forward. Round about the present prices these dividends give a very satisfactory return on the investment, and with regard to the 1894 Preference which is entitled to 5 per cent., it is almost certain that the full dividend will be earned before long

Proposed Rand Amalgamation Dropped.

A few weeks ago we referred to the scheme by which the Crown Mines proposed to purchase the Robinson Gold Mine for 180,000 Crown shares, and mentioned that the proposal was meeting with vigorous opposition from independent shareholders. Having in mind the barren results of similar efforts in the past, we were not very sanguine about the result of the present campaign, but it turns out that we were too pessimistic. The "big guns" have withdrawn their batteries and retired from the field. One or two papers have given the official version of the incident at great length, but when the thing is boiled down, there cannot be any question that a very discreditable attempt was made to buy out the Robinson shareholders for what was little better than a mess of pottage. The directors of the Robinson announce their intention of retiring at the next annual meeting, and in the circumstances it is difficult to see how they could do otherwise; but it is the first occasion where Kaffir shareholders have been able to assert their authority and escape being shamelessly fleeced.

Austin Motor Company.

An opportunity is now afforded to the public to acquire an interest in this highly-successful industrial concern, which has been carried on for several years past as a private company. In our opinion the 7 per cent. Preference shares constitute an attractive investment, provided, of course, that the present prosperity in the motor industry continues.

"Bullets"—More Popular than Ever. Try a Shot this week. See page 5.

Racing Notes.

Judging by the quality and quantity of the acceptances for the Spring Handicaps we are promised an excellent season. Two of the early fancies for the Lincolnshire have gone out in Cheerful and Lord Annandale. Both are in other races, but if Lord Annandale is not fancied over the Lincoln mile he does not look good enough to win anything at a longer distance. There is an idea about that Mr. Joe Cannon is going to have a good season, and he certainly has got Sir Martin well into the Lincolnshire. Covertcoat keeps his place in the Grand National, and whenever the metallicians get to work it is fully expected that Sir C. Assheton-Smith's last year's winner will be at the top of the quotations again. The same owner also has Irish Mail in the race, but last year's second has been under a cloud recently, and nobody would be surprised were he to be scratched. It is early yet to express any strong fancy for particular horses.

It was a bit of very bad luck for us that the race won by Hesperus Magnus on Tuesday was declared void. The other two selections got home, and Londerry started at the nice price of 8 to 1.

Lingfield and Hurst Park call for discussion this week. At Lingfield to-day (Wednesday), Ebonette should take the Naval and Military Steeplechase, Ballykisteen the Gravetye Maiden Hurdle, and Schoolmoney the Southern Steeplechase. To-morrow (Thursday) Ballykisteen if he is kept for the Stayers' Hurdle should win. The United Kingdom Steeplechase should go to Hesperus Magnus, and the Novices' Steeplechase to Fermor.

At Hurst Park on Friday Lamentable can take the Thames Steeplechase, and Growler the Park Maiden Steeplechase. On Saturday St. Bruno should carry his penalty successfully in the Novices' Hurdle. Minstrel Park ought to win the Novices' Steeplechase, whilst in the Weir Selling Steeplechase occurs the best thing of the week in Ante.*

Cooden and King's Garter have chances at Lingfield.

Football Fancies.

By "McW."

I apologise for not replying to my hundreds of correspondents who wrote to me to point out that the Pontypridd and Luton match was not played on January 31st. Had I answered each letter, I should have required a special staff of typists. The match was set down, in the Football Guides which I consulted, to be played on the last day of January. It was not until it was too late to alter the Coupon that I discovered that the match had been brought forward and had been decided in November.

However, no harm was done. I gave all competitors a better chance, for the match was totally ignored in the checking of the coupons. With one match less to forecast, I certainly anticipated that there would have been at least one fortunate individual to win the £2,500, or £5 a Week for Life. It was very hard lines for those who had but one mistake to miss so grand a prize by so narrow a margin.

As the Third Round of the Cup Ties approaches we are getting vagaries of form which start us guessing. Aston Villa, for instance, who began the season so shakily, are having a revival. On the other hand, their opponents in last season's Final, Sunderland, appear to be a bit wobbly, after having got well away in the League race. They have had an easy journey so far, and will probably account for Preston North End, but, after that, what will happen?

Most people are pinning their faith to Aston Villa or Blackburn Rovers, but there is one team of hard fighters which we should watch. I refer to Burnley. They have never won the Cup, but I fancy their chances this year. My invitation to my readers to visit me at 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., to see how our Competition is conducted, still holds good. Come when you like. Do not wait to put on your swell attire.

Special Scotch!

Noo for ma blythe an' bonnie Callants o' the Land o' Cakes. Ye can a' enter oor Fitba' Competition noo. Dinna say it's agin the law, for it's no. Sae send alang yer coupons an' win some o' the Sassenach siller.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, 14th February, 1914.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

	Matches played on ground of first-named team	Last Season's Result.	JOHN BULL.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sunday Chronicle	Sporting Chronicle	[illegible]
SOUTHERN LEAGUE—SECOND LEAGUE—FIRST LEAGUE—	Bradford C. v. Tottenham H. ..	Bradford won	Home	Home	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	Away	—	Home
	Blackburn Rovers v. Manchester C.	Draw	Home	Home	[illegible]	Home	Home	[illegible]	—	Home
	Sunderland v. Derby County ..	Derby won	Home	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
	Everton v. Sheffield United ..	Sheffield won	Away	Home	Away	Away	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
	West Bromwich A. v. Middlesbrough	West Brom. won	Draw	Home	Home	[illegible]	Draw	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
	Sheffield W. .. v. Aston Villa ..	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Home	Away	Away	—	Away
	Bolton W. v. Liverpool	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
	Chelsea v. Newcastle United ..	Chelsea won	[illegible]	Home	Draw	[illegible]	Draw	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
	Oldham A. v. Preston North End	No match	Home	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	Home	Home	—	[illegible]
	Manchester U. v. Burnley.. ..	No match	Draw	[illegible]	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	Home
	Blackpool v. Fulham	Draw	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Draw	Away	—	Home
	Notts Forest v. Lincoln City ..	Lincoln won	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	Home	Home	[illegible]	—	Home
	Woolwich Arsenal v. [illegible]	No match	Home	[illegible]	Home	Home	Home	[illegible]	—	Home
	Grimsby Town v. Bury	Grimsby won	Home	Draw	Draw	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	Home
	Birmingham v. Barnsley.. ..	Birmingham won	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	Home
	Bristol C. v. Hull City	Draw	Draw	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	—	Home
	Leeds City v. Wolverhampton W.	Draw	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	Home	Draw	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
	Clapton Orient v. Leicester Fosse	Draw	[illegible]	[illegible]	Home	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
	Glossop v. Notts County	No match	Away	Away	Away	[illegible]	Home	Home	—	Away
	Stockport County v. Bradford ..	Stockport won	[illegible]	Away	Away	Draw	Away	Draw	—	Home
	Reading v. Merthyr Town ..	Reading won	[illegible]	[illegible]	Home	Home	Home	Home	—	[illegible]
	Southampton v. West Ham United	W. Ham won	Home	Away	[illegible]	[illegible]	Home	Home	—	Away
	Plymouth A. v. Queen's Park R.	Plymouth won	Home	Draw	[illegible]	[illegible]	Home	Away	—	[illegible]
	Swindon City v. Exeter City ..	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Away	—	[illegible]
	Gillingham v. Millwall A. ..	Draw	Draw	Home	Draw	Draw	Draw	Away	—	Home
	Brighton v. Portsmouth	Portsmouth won	Home	[illegible]	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	Home
	Crystal Palace v. Bristol Rovers..	Palace won	Home	Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
	Watford v. Cardiff City	No match	Home	[illegible]	Home	[illegible]	Draw	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
	Coventry City v. Swansea Town ..	Coventry won	Away	Away	Away	[illegible]	Draw	Away	—	Away
	Southend U. v. Brighton & H. A.	No match	Home	Away	[illegible]	Home	[illegible]	Home	—	[illegible]

Result of our No. 9 Football Contest. All the Winners on page 5.

BULLETS COMPETITORS

Read this glowing testimony from MR. H. VERNON BLAKE, of Bridgwater, who, a fortnight ago, won a £500 "Bullets" prize for the clever line—

Example: GOLDEN RULE.
Bullet: LEND EAR ONLY.

MR. VERNON BLAKE writes:

"I can say with all honesty that I owe my £500 success to the good old 'C.J.'"

"THE COMPETITORS' JOURNAL."
familiarly known as the "C.J." is on sale at all Smith's, Wyman's and other Books alls. Every Wednesday. One Penny.

"THE COMPETITORS' JOURNAL" contains:
ADVICE — COST — 1d.
which may bring a
PRIZE — WORTH — £500

ASK FOR A COPY TO-DAY. It contains advice re this week's "Bullets."

IF THIS ADVERTISEMENT STRIKES YOUR EYE

and you are interested in football competitions send to address below for full particulars of a

GRAND PRIZE SHOOTING CONTEST

on the 3rd Round of the CUP, Feb. 21st.

☞ This advertisement will not appear after Feb. 20th. ☜

Premier Prizes this season have been awarded as follows:—

Sept. 1st Contest (no tens predicted) 14 nines gained £17 17s. 1d.

„ 6th „ (no tens predicted) 38 nines gained £6 11s. 6d.

The above results—no tens for two successive contests—constitute a record for Continental Competitions.

Sept.	13th	Contest	2 tens	gained	£125	0s. 0d.
„	20th	„	5	„	50	0 0
„	27th	„	117	„	2	2 8
Oct.	4th	„	53	„	4	14 4
„	11th	„	8	„	31	5 0
„	18th	„	41	„	0	1 11
„	25th	„	2	„	125	0 0
Nov.	1st	„	5	„	50	0 0
„	8th	„	3	„	12	6 6
„	15th	„	2	„	125	0 0
„	22nd	„	15	„	16	13 4
„	29th	„	17	„	14	14 1
„	6th	„	10	„	26	0 0
„	13th	„	8	„	31	5 0
„	20th	„	40 nines (No tens predicted.)	„	6	5 0
„	27th	„	1 ten	„	250	0 0
Dec.	3rd	„	10 tens	„	25	0 0

H. T. TERRY,

"Football World," Geneva, Switzerland.

THE TOTALISATOR,

LUCERNE, Switzerland.

Following are names of a few Winners of Totalisator Prizes.

£1006	won by	E. H. Hann Esq., 77a, Larden Rd., Acton, London, W.
£1421	„ „	E. W. Eades Esq., 1, Peppercroft St., Gravesend
£ 760	„ „	Miss J. Morton, 9, Sussex Mansions, South Kensington, London.
£1002	„ „	Mrs. E. S. Bliss, Hill Cottage, Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks.
£1026	„ „	A. Bridgman, Esq., 59, High Street, Highgate, London, N.
£1132	„ „	A. Troughton, Esq., 12, Central Markets, London, E.C.
£ 711	„ „	P. C. Tayler, Esq., 430, High Road, Chiswick, London, W.
£ 901	„ „	A. E. de Souza, Esq., 44, Colby Road, Gipsy Hill, London, S.E.
£ 235.5.0	„ „	Lord Auckland, The Burrow, Howard Road, Bournemouth.
£ 112	„ „	John Allerne, Esq., Main Street, Charleville, co. Cork, Ireland.
£1012	„ „	Mrs. Burgess, 43, Ridgmount Gardens, Bedford Square, London, W.
£ 258	„ „	John A. Dodworth, Esq., 190, Sheffield Road, Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield.
£ 128.10.	„ „	John Cotton, Esq., Golf Hotel, Crail., Scotland.
£1012	„ „	Mrs. Miller, Littlewick Green, Maidenhead.
£ 844	„ „	Nigel Walker, Esq., Bealings near Woodbridge, Suffolk.
£ 211	„ „	J. W. S. Lansden, Esq., 145, Church Road, Hove, Sussex.
£1500	„ „	Miss W. M. Everitt, 7, Admiralty Road, Portsmouth.

(Names published by permission)

OVER £40,000 HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED.
£5,000 GUARANTEED ON THE LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.

"JOHN BULL" says:—"The Totalisator's Guarantee is 'GILT EDGED.' Terms free on receipt of name and address on penny postcard to:—

THE TOTALISATOR,

LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND. Established 1908.
MANAGER . . . H. CULLERNE-BOWN.

H. HAMILTON & CO.,

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The Oldest Established Football Accountants in the World.

Send a post card (postage 1d.) for the most liberal price list issued. But no need to wait for coupons, write your commissions on plain paper.

"John Bull" says—Messrs. H. Hamilton & Co., are thoroughly reliable.

Our "Football Annual," containing several new features, will be sent free on mentioning this paper.

Selected Matches for February 14th.

Sheffield W.	v.	Aston Villa	Coventry C.	v.	Swindon T.
Birmingham	v.	Barnsley	Norwich C.	v.	Exeter C.
Bristol C.	v.	Hull C.	Southampton	v.	West Ham
Glossop	v.	Notts C.	Southend	v.	Brighton
Grimsby T.	v.	Bury	Airdrieonians	v.	Rangers
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